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# THE HINDU on Sunday

AUGUST 21, 2022

INDIA'S NATIONAL NEWSPAPER SINCE 1878

BENGALURU
CITY EDITION
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सत्यमेव जयते
Government of Rajasthan

For the first time in the country,
**Mahakumbh of Sports** for the villagers

राजीव गांधी ग्रामीण ओलम्पिक खेल 2022

29 August to 5 October 2022

Organizing Kabaddi, Shooting Ball, Volleyball, Tennis Ball Cricket, Kho-Kho and Hockey

Approximately 30 lakh people of all age-group to take part

"The Rajasthan government by organizing the first Mahakumbh of rural sports in the state is not only strengthening the infrastructure, but also giving birth to a new sports culture by promoting rural sports. Winners of national and international sports competitions are being encouraged by giving appointment in government services. The government is taking big decisions for the development of sports with utmost commitment. I am sure that Rajasthan will soon become a leader in sports in the country."

**Ashok Gehlot**, Chief Minister

## Rajasthan's growing steps in sports

- Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award for the talented sportspersons of Rajasthan
- Prize money increased to Rs 5 lakh each in Guru Vashishtha and Maharana Pratap Award
- 229 best performing sportspersons given appointment in government jobs under Out-of-Turn Policy
- Provision of 2 percent reservation for sportspersons in government jobs

Rajasthan Samwad

खेलेगा राजस्थान
जीतेगा राजस्थान

HIT RAJASTHAN, FIT RAJASTHAN

Department of Information & Public Relations, Rajasthan

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Sri Lankan Minister hopes visit of Chinese vessel won't stoke row
page 6

Govt. using technology to reduce pendency in courts, says Rijiju
page 7

Want 'permanent peace' with India, war not an option: Pak. PM Sharif
page 9

Shardul, Samson help India seal ODI series against Zimbabwe
page 14

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## NEARBY

**Two killed, 35 injured as truck rams college bus**

BELAGAVI

Two men were killed and at least 35 students injured when a goods truck rammed a college bus in Athani in Belagavi district on Saturday morning. As many as 21 suffered serious injuries.

BENGALURU ▸ PAGE 3

**Private medical colleges to demand fee hike**

BENGALURU

Private medical and dental colleges are placing a proposal before the State government to hike the government and institutional quota MBBS and BDS fee by 30% to 35%.

BENGALURU ▸ PAGE 3

**'Ex-CM has repented the bid to divide community'**

HASSAN/BENGALURU

Bringing back to focus an issue that had turned controversial ahead of the previous Assembly elections, Rambhapuri mutt seer Veerasomeshwara Shivacharya swami has claimed that former Chief Minister Siddaramaiah "repents" his government's efforts to provide separate religion status for Lingayats.

KARNATAKA ▸ PAGE 4

CLASSIFIEDS ▸ PAGES J2 & 2
MAGAZINE ▸ 8 PAGES

**Wiped out:** The railway bridge over the Chakki river that collapsed after the flash floods in Dharamshala on Saturday. • PTI

# 21 killed in Himachal rain havoc

## Four killed in Uttarakhand; downpour triggers flash floods, landslips in hill States

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHANDIGARH

At least 25 people were killed as torrential rain triggered flash floods and landslips in the hill States of Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand, officials said on Saturday. Several arterial roads were blocked by debris, while gushing currents washed away bridges and vehicles.

Himachal Pradesh bore the maximum brunt as 21 people were killed and 12 sustained injuries in 34 incidents of landslip, flash flood and cloudburst in the State. At least six people are missing in rain-related incidents, the government said in a statement.

Mandi, Kangra and Chamba were the worst-affected districts in the State. As many as 742 roads, including the Manali-Chandigarh National Highway at Mandi and the Shimla-Chandigarh Highway at Shoghi, were blocked for traffic. Nearly 172 water supply schemes were also disrupted by the unprecedented rain.

Four people were killed in Uttarakhand, while 12 are missing after a series of cloudbursts hit different parts of the State.

"So far, four people have died. 13 people have been injured and 12 people are missing. Five *gaushalas* (cowsheds) have been damaged and 78 animals have been lost," Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami said.

Raipur, where a cloudburst occurred around 2.15 a.m. in Sarkhet village, the Thano areas of Dehradun and parts of Pauri, Tehri and Almora districts suffered the most damage.

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 6

# Not going back to NDA, will find an ally: Chirag

## LJP (Ramvilas) eyes an early split of JD(U), RJD in Bihar

SOBHANA K. NAIR
NISTULA HEBBAR
NEW DELHI

> In the last eight years, Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar has changed his alliances thrice and therefore I do not see the present one surviving for long. I won't be surprised if the political equations in Bihar change again by the 2024 general election
>
> CHIRAG PASWAN
> Lok Janshakti Party (Ramvilas) president

"I have no reason to ally with the BJP; it neither has a vision for Bihar nor leadership in the State," Lok Janshakti Party (Ramvilas) president Chirag Paswan said in an interview to *The Hindu*, days after the reconfiguration of the political equations in the State. He predicted an early fall of the Janata Dal(U)-Rashtriya Janata Dal alliance government, forcing a mid-term Assembly election.

While he ruled out allying with the BJP, Mr. Paswan said his party will not be contesting the next Assembly and Lok Sabha elections alone, hinting at a possible alliance with the RJD in the event of an early divorce between it and the JD(U).

Mr. Paswan, as the national president of the Lok Janshakti Party in the 2020 Bihar Assembly election, had walked out of the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA), raising a rebellion against Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar. But now that Mr. Kumar has walked out of the NDA, he is not too keen to return. "All these years, the BJP has worked as a subservient partner to the JD(U) in Bihar. Irrespective of electoral strength, it genuflects in front of Nitish Kumar and offers him the Chief Minister's chair on a platter. Why? The BJP in the State has no leadership and no vision."

### Changed scene

His decision to stay away from the BJP is dictated by its indifference as the Lok Janshakti Party has split into two. His uncle Pashupati Nath Paras found a place in the Modi Cabinet. And in February, his family was forced to vacate 12 Janpath, the official residence of his father, Ram Vilas Paswan, for over three decades. "I am not bitter about the BJP. At the same time, I won't say that I have a capacious heart and I can forget and forgive everything. If they wanted they could have handled it better, which was not done."

In the 2020 Assembly election, the LJP managed only a 5.66% vote share and a single seat. The lone MLA soon switched sides to the JD (U). Now, with a split in the party, Mr. Paswan, who wants to position himself as the political heir of Ram Vilas Paswan, does not want to repeat the 2020 strategy.

"My party will contest the election in an alliance, but we shall cross the bridge when we come to it. I am the son of *Mausam Vigyanik* [Ram Vilas Paswan was referred to as the weathervane of Indian politics]; so I can foresee a few things (laughs). In the past eight years, the Chief Minister has changed his alliances thrice and therefore I do not see the present one surviving for long. I won't be surprised if the political equations in Bihar change again by the 2024 general election," he said.

FULL INTERVIEW ▸ PAGE 7

# CBI action part of BJP script to stall Kejriwal's rise: Sisodia

## 'Excise policy is a mere excuse... BJP is trembling with fear'

JATIN ANAND
MUNEEF KHAN
NEW DELHI

Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia addressing the media in New Delhi on Saturday • SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

A day after being searched by the CBI for his alleged role in illegalities related to the revamped excise policy in Delhi, Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia lashed out at the BJP and the Union government here on Saturday.

Rubbishing accusations of wrongdoing related to the now-scrapped policy levelled against him, Mr. Sisodia termed it "the best" policy of its kind to have ever been formulated in the country. He alleged that the search against him was part of a "larger script" aimed at stalling Aam Aadmi Party convener and Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal's political advance across the country. "The excise policy is a mere excuse; BJP is perturbed by CM Kejriwal's growing power and popularity; the field has been set for the AAP and BJP to go head to head in the 2024 election, which will be a direct contest between Kejriwal and Modi. The BJP is trembling with fear seeing CM Kejriwal emerge as a national icon and an honest alternative," Mr. Sisodia said.

"The AAP's landslide victory in Punjab has pitted CM Arvind Kejriwal as PM Modi's prime alternative and the BJP is trying to put roadblocks in his way. I will not be surprised if they arrest me in the next two to four days; but we too are the sons of Bhagat Singh, we will not cow down," he said. Mr. Kejriwal thought of the nation's progress, excellent education and healthcare in addition to the welfare of the poor at every step while Mr. Modi spent his day "trying to hatch conspiracies and break governments." If the BJP really cared for corruption, Mr. Sisodia added, it would have investigated how liquor worth ₹10,000 crore is sold in the dry State of Gujarat every year.

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 6

# Mumbai alert over text from Pak. phone

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

A day after a boat with three AK-47 rifles and live cartridges was found off the Raigad coast in Maharashtra, the Mumbai Police on Saturday received WhatsApp messages threatening a 26/11-model attack in the city, prompting high alert. A man was detained from Virar, near Mumbai. A Mumbai Crime Branch team is questioning him.

At a press conference, City Police Commissioner Vivek Phansalkar said the messages came from a number that carried the country code of Pakistan. "The messages threatened that a 26/11-like attack would be carried out in Mumbai and that the city would be blown up. There was a mention of 26/11-attack terrorist Ajmal Kasab and (deceased) al-Qaeda leader Ayman al-Zawahiri in the messages. It was mentioned that some of their aides are working in India," he said.

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 6

# Apollo Hospitals gets clean chit on Jayalalithaa treatment

## No errors found in care provided: AIIMS panel

RAMYA KANNAN
CHENNAI

The treatment provided to former Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Jayalalithaa by Apollo Hospitals was as "per correct medical practice and no errors have been found in the care provided", according to the AIIMS medical board constituted to give expert opinion on the circumstances of her hospitalisation and treatment.

The medical board, comprising seven experts, was constituted after a Supreme Court order in November 2021 called for the same with regard to an appeal filed by Apollo Hospitals. In its final report, dated August 4, the board has given the hospital a clean chit and agreed with the final diagnosis made by the hospital.

Providing a chronological sequence of significant events that had happened while Jayalalithaa was being treated, the board also records the exact treatment that was provided to the former Chief Minister. It said it found the sequence to be factually correct.

Multiple complications led to Jayalalithaa's death, according to the discharge summary made available initially by the hospital.

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 6

**Standing tall:** An aerial view of the aircraft carrier berthed at the Cochin Shipyard.

# Alpha ship

## *INS Vikrant*, India's first indigenous aircraft carrier, is all set to be part of the naval fleet

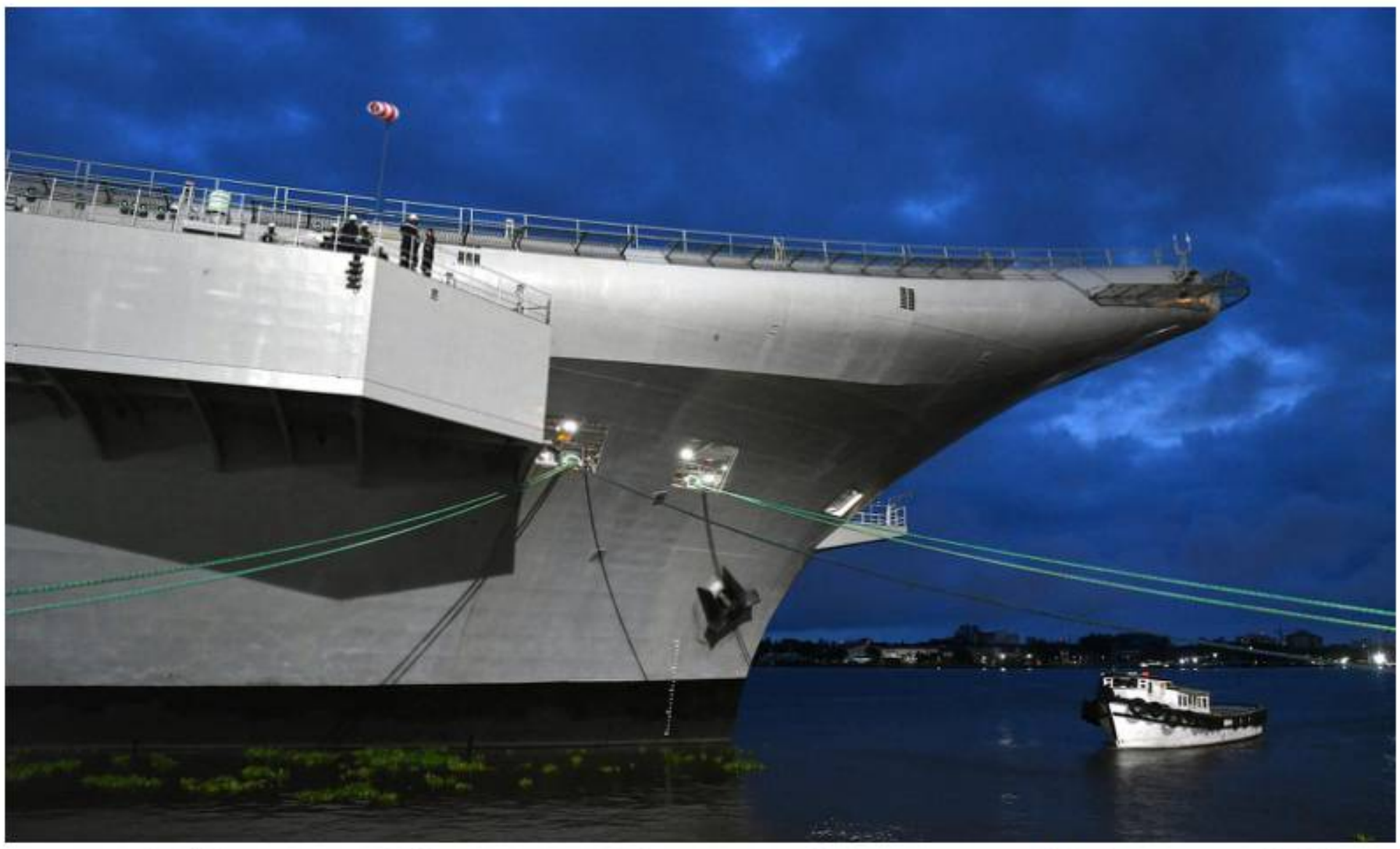
TEXT AND IMAGES BY THULASI KAKKAT

In a fortnight, India's maiden indigenous aircraft carrier built at the Cochin Shipyard will be part of the naval fleet as *INS Vikrant*, taking on the name, the crest and pennant number (R11) of India's first aircraft carrier. Flooring and final painting are in progress as this behemoth of a vessel is getting decked up for the big day in the first week of September, possibly September 1.

The project got under way in 2007 and the keel was laid in 2009. The 262-metre-long ship, with a full displacement of about 45,000 tonnes, is powered by four gas turbines with a capacity of 88 MW and can cruise at speeds of up to 28 knots. Designed indigenously and built at a cost of about ₹20,000 crore, the carrier can take on nearly 30 aircraft, both fixed-wing and helicopters, of assorted variety. Initially, it will be the MiG-29K fighters and Ka-31 helicopters that will be operating from the ship. But depending on the government's decision, *INS Vikrant* could get Rafale (M) or the F-18 Super Hornet fighters.

The MH-60R multi-role helicopters that have already been delivered to India will join the air arm of the carrier, once inducted. The ship will be manned by nearly 1,700 personnel under the Commanding Officer (designate) Commodore Vidhyadhar Harke. The significance of *INS Vikrant* is that it gave a fillip to indigenisation of ship-building materials and processes. The Cochin Shipyard says it is now confident of building another carrier of similar dimensions in under seven years.

**Ramp up:** A view of the ski-jump from the bridge of the ship.



**Sea worthy:** The ship made its first sea voyage on August 8.

THE HINDU

# CLASSIFIEDS

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## BRIDEGROOMS WANTED

### COMPUTER / INFO.TECH.

**BE, PGDM** Catholic Mukkuvar girl, working in INFOSYS 5ft 4inch , 25 yrs beautiful seeks well educated working boy ch_kk_tn@yahoo.com

**DEC 84,** 4ft 11 inch, Hindu Nadar, BTech, Issueless, Innocent Divorce. Looking for a suitable Hindu Nadar groom, 8870863350.

### COSMOPOLITAN

**A 30**-YEAR-OLD lawyer, policy-researcher, writer, from a Tamil-speaking, Delhi-based family. Father university professor. Seeking a well-settled, educated, urban groom. nbuvana2022@gmail.com

**GROOM WANTED**
**DOCTOR MBBS MD MRCPCH**
**Working in NHS London**
**37/167 Fair Tamil**
**Protestant CSI**
**Christian Nadar BC**
**innocent divorcee no**
**issues seeks christian**
**Doctor Groom/**
**Professionals in UK/**
**India. Caste no bar**
**Ph: 98435 26370**

**PQM FOR** (Bangalore) based Hindu girl, 1981 / 153 cm, Working in MNC, BE, Father Scientist, seeks liberal minded, suitable match in early 40's. E: siarni85@mail.com with photo.

**DENTIST –**MDS, 28/164, Poosam, Vegetarian Saiva Mudaliyar, upper middle class cultured family, Chennai. Any vegetarian sub–caste OK. tp171095@gmail.com

### DOCTOR

**LOOKING FOR** a doctor bridagroom for a doctor girl who has completed M.S. (Ortho) 26 years, 160 cm, doctor family settled in Salem.We seek liberal minded, suitable Hindu match .Ph:9677706235

**Hindu Sozhia** vellalar Makam/ Simmam fair 25/155 MBBS passed PLAB2 working in UK seeks Doctor groom in UK or willing to go to UK (also Engg groom).Ct:9443142646,9442222401 or sripriya233@gmail.com

**AGAMUDAYAR, THEVAR,** 31/ 5.1", Fair, Doctor(MD), DNB Radiology, working in well reputed Pvt. Medical college Hospital at Chennai seeks suitable, good looking/ chivalrous Doctor groom with age less than 34 years. CNB.Ct: 88257 52705/ 76390 72948

**DOCTOR GIRL** MD Anesthesiology 33/ 165 from affluent Elite family of doctors.Working as Cardiac Anesthesiologist in top hospital, Chennai. Fair beautiful good mannered & cultured. Father doctor Kerala Nair, Mother CSI Tamil Christian. Doctor & Engineer grooms with MD/ MS/ MCh/ DM/ BE/ B.Tech from good family background from Kerala & Tamilnadu preferable. Ct: 9840050381/ 9840985383

**SEEKING A** Suitable Hindu Tamil Doctor Groom for a Gynecologists DNB, 29yrs, 158cm, HINDU, BC, working in Chennai Contact: 9444141815

**DEVENDRAKULA VELLALAR,** 31, MBBS, Legally Divorced. No issue. Star Thiruvonam. Doctor Preferable. Ct: 90258 23457, 63698 06282

### MALAYALAM

**MALAYALEE VISHWAKARMA(G.S)** girl 39/ 162, Avittom, Deputy Manager in MNC,Chennai seeks Educated & Employed Groom (CNB). 9445651626, 9952995662

**ALLIANCE INVITED** for Chennai based Nair girl, 25/157, Star Makiram, Embryologist, P.G preferably from Chennai. Ct: 9444947618/ 9677213236

### NRI

**Tamil Hindu** Girl, 32/165 BE, SWE GOOGLE, NRI, seeks suitable Grooms preferably in IT. Caste Religion no bar. s.jayalaxmi09@gmail.com

### TAMIL

**SEEKING 40**–45 aged educated Muslim groom with permanent income & willing to settle with Muslim, Govt. servant bride aged 40,Ct: 9788634884

**US BASED** Muslim bride 23 seeks Tamil speaking US settled Muslim professional between 26–30 Ct: 9444033781

**37/165cm, Slim,** Charming, Banker in Malaysia seeks NRI Tamil Catholic groom.mail:sacrament295@gmail.com

### TAMIL

**Alliance Invited** for a Protestant born-again Girl, BDS, MPH(Health Administration) 28/152cm, Working as a Consultant (MOHFW, Delhi) EM: mamtagead23@gmail.com Ct: +91 98940 40344, 98954 55595.

**RC NADAR** 26, fair PG from most reputed business group looking for bureaucrats, educated business men. pl do send the groom details to : divinemercy2499@gmail.com

**CSI CHRISTIAN** Nadar Girl Fair, Good Looking, 03–04–1986 born / 152cm / M.Sc M.Phil, working as Assistant Professor in a Reputed Women's College, Mount Road, Chennai. Both Parents Doctors (Private). Suitable Alliance, Employed / Settled in Chennai / With Clean Habits from Same Community. Contact: 9841182514

**MUSLIM GIRL,** 27/162 CM, Very Fair,BE (ECE), Affluent Family in Chennai,5 times Prayer. Ct:9944227295

**ADIDRAVIDAR 34,** Rohini, B. Tech, PSU–Employee, Chennai, 50,000pm, Widow, lost her husband in Covid, having boy 7 yrs old. Seeks suitable Similar Alliance, Caste No Bar. 9443307660 Mail: gana1972madras@gmail.com

**TAMILIAN 168** cm, 30yrs working in corporate Seeks Suitable South Indian bridegroom. Contact:9444186160

**CHENNAI MUDALIAR** MBA 24, 172cm 3Lac seek 32–37 Affluent Tall 17–20L Indpt. Boy 8754144896/ W–9629196530

**HINDU MARAVAR** Star Uthradam, Rasi Magaram,D.O.B: 12/02/1991, Job–HR, 165cm Ht, 64kg Wt, Expectation: Working in Chennai. [Equal Professional, same or sub caste ok] 7845259152

**LOOKING BOY for only daughter of reputed business family 88 born Mudaliar Non Vegetarian 162cm, fair, slim pretty looking affectionate Int. law analyst expectations well educated equal community contact: whatsapp 9443248287**

**MUDALIAR DIVORCEE,** Caste No Bar, 35yrs, Ph.D, Asst. Prof. in Govt College, Puducherry, seeks compatible Groom age 33-37. Ct: 9500333303

**MUDALIAR (CNB)** : 200cr, 30/ 160, Good looking, B.Arch, Famous Construction Business in Chennai, Affluent Family – Seeks groom – Business / Eng / India / Abroad – 8939012419

**SENGUNTHAR MUDALIYAR** : Doctor Girl, Age 30, Studying MS – OG. Seeks Suitable Groom in same profession and community. Cell : 98940 81894.

**ADIDRAVIDAR SC** 34/165 MCA Salary 50K PM Seeks Suitable Groom Ct: 94455 07220

**DKV 30**/164 fair B.Tech (NIT) MBA (IIT), MNC Chennai seeks bridegroom from educated family. 9940507235

**TAMIL YADAVA** CNB–A Business Family From Ooty seeks Bride Groom for their daughter 24 years very fair Bachelor in Fashion Designing Sadayam–Kumbam. Business/Professional Family From Yadava/Pillai/Mudaliar. CT: 9443115000.

**A Very** well established Kongu Vellalar Gounder family in Tirupur seeking a groom in the same community for their only Daughter aged 26 yrs Working at a Top Tier Investment Bank based in the UK. We are looking for a groom based in US/UK aged below 32. Contact Mob: 98430-21111, 94430-40909. Mail id: amvenkat1966@gmail.com

**HINDU, TAMIL** 37Y Govt Doctor MD Gynecology CNB prefer Doctor/ Engineer/ Businessman Ct. 9514518655.

**HINDU, SC** –Adi Dravida, Female, age 29, height 5ft 7inch B.E/MBA, Work: Accenture, Ph: 9444991091

**HASTHAM 34**/154 fair MCA Upper mid Clas Seeks Mudaliar / pillai professionally Qualified Groom 8220757159

**HINDU NADAR** 24 yrs fair BE working in IT Trivandrum seeking well employed groom preferably from KK Dt 9840699495.

**SAIVA PILLAI** 30/165/B.Tech MBA Girl Thiruvathirai Employed in MNC, Chennai. Ct 044–48041602 / 9843003640

**H.GAYATHRI 45,** BSc,BEd, R. Harikrishnan, Shenoy Ngr Chennai–30, Dip.Deg. Caste NoBar 9500168187/9498355090

**MUDALIAR 26**/165, Fair,Beautiful,B.Tech,SWE,Accenture,60000 PM,Affluent Family,CNB. 7299576644,7299576665

### TAMIL

**PILLAI/MUDALIAR, 33,** Good looking, MBBS,MD Final yr,Well Settled family seeks Groom aged 33-36 yrs. Engineer/Business/Doctor.Ct: 9345855735

**MUDALIAR/ PILLAI,** 26 B.E Kettai Working in Leading MNC Co. Reputed Business Family Seeks Alliance for His Daughter Call 98400 93322

**Hindu Nadar 40/162cm, M.E; Slim, Fair Girl seeks Educated Groom from the same Caste. Phone: 9500022495.**

**AGANUDI MUDALIAR,**ELITE Family Sep 91/165 PG,Working HR MNC Seeks MS/ M.Tech Groom. SubCaste Ok 9176780777

**HINDU NADAR** B.Com, MBA 26 years 170CMWhite, Salary 40000/– CHENNAI Contact: 8148080800

**BRAHMIN, 23YRS,** Haritham Hastham M.Com(Fy) Seeks boy upto 29 in Chennai/around Ct:9444391919,044 24483448

**DOCTORS Parents-** Hindu Pillai 25yrs B.E, MS(Data Science) - Australia,Elite seeks grooms from Elite Affluent family from India/Abroad.CNB. 98946-97977.

**THULUVA Vellala,** Pooradam -1987, BA.,BL.,(Hon) M.L., employed at MNC Chennai seeks Employed Educated, Good Looking Groom. Ct: 9381048682

**TAMIL Yadava** 26/165, Pooradam MS abroad seeks well Educated Groom preferably from Europe. 95000 33921

### TELUGU

**NAIDU BORN** August 1990 165cm Ph.D Research scholar smart medium complexion seeks well educated & well settled groom in India from decent background born not earlier than 1987 (Below 35yrs) call 9790908109

**KRITHIGAI, 39**/159CM – M.Com, B.Ed Veg Bride, Seeks Educated, Employed groom, Caste Nobar. Ct: 8056012713

**REDDIAR 1993** born 170cms BE, ECE working in MNC Bangalore CTC 20 lacs per Annum. Seeks well placed Groom. Contact: 9843046775

**BALIJA 27**/163 Pretty Professional girl seeks well settled professional groom. Caste no bar.Ct: 7200441925

**BRAHMIN GIRL,** 26 Yrs, Working in the USA, MS–HRM, Srivatsasa Gothram, Anuradha Star. Boy to be Vegetarian, Teetotaler. Email: Mathsuktam@gmail.com

**BRIDE GROOM WANTED**
A big business family from Chennai Wants Bride Groom for their Daughter, Age:28, Naidu, Dhanusu, Moolam, 2nd Patham, Working in Germany BE,MS (Germany) with good background. Groom should be below 30yrs Businessman or working Professional Ok. based at Chennai or anywhere at SouthIndia Ok.
**Ct : 0-98410 71701**

### URDU

**SMU GIRL** Chennai, Hijabi, Fair 29/ 155, M.Phil, Counselor Special Needs School, seeks suitable, professionally qualified, settled groom. WhatsApp 9884587114, 9962625140, hameed.shaadi2020@gmail.com

**SHOULD BE** an IT Professional working in USA or Trichy Tamil Nadu, Religious Sunni Muslim, Urdu-speaking, Age 27–37, For: MCA MPhil Trichy Bride, Assistant Professor, Pious, 1987 born, 165 cm . Write to: farhath_abbas@yahoo.com

**SMU GIRL** 30/157, Fair, M.Com M.Phil, Asst.Prof. Chennai Seeks Qualified Professional Groom Ct:9445678086

## BRIDES WANTED

### COMPUTER / INFO.TECH.

**US SETTLED** Vishwakarma groom DOB 15–09–1984 seeks alliance from Malayali vishwakarma community. contact no.9526463511

Wanted Tamil Brahmin Brides for Vadama / Gowsikam / Viskam IV / 29 years / 170cms / teetotaler / fair complexion / MS graduate H-1B visa holder working in US, seeks qualified girl settled in US / willing to relocate.
Contact us at
E-mail ID
cgramachandran@gmail.com
Ph: 89394 49123

### DIVORCEE

**WELL SETTLED** NRI return,Tamilnadu based second divorce boy , graduate Civil engineer, age 58 /178 cm, probing for issueless non-working qualified girl /soulmate who should be attentive and appreciate, committed to stay long. Caste and language no bar. Looking for placidity. Mediators excuse. Ct: 63857 54610.

**IYER DIVORCEE** Boy Vadoolam Thiruvonam 47/168 Director IT MNC Seeks Iyer / Iyengar Graduate Girl Divorcee / Widow without Issues 9841942915

**DIVORCEE IYENGAR** Kowsika Sravana 46yr MBA IT Sales 13L/Annum Seek MiddleClass Girl 9363358127, 9884552891

### DOCTOR

**DOCTOR MD** Radiology 35 years Hindu Tamil SC Pondicherry seeks Doctor Girl contact. 7708756396

### TAMIL

**CHRISTIAN DIVORCE** BOY 45/164cm Fair PG Working in UK Govt Job Native Chennai Holding UK Citizenship.Ct:7358781499 UK 0044 7772544028

**MUDALIAR 29,** BE/MS, 23Lacs PA, 178cm, Smartlook,well Settled Family Seeks Bride, CNB.8778514465/ 7200866946

**HINDU DEVENDIRA** kula vellalar M.E., 28/167 Asst. Engg. in PWD seeks suitable bride 8248195168, 8667380725

**5.9,28YRS,B.TECH,MS(NEW ZEALAND),** FAIR handsome now working in MNC chennai seeks suitable bride,CNB ct–7010082445,7010224142.

**GAVARA NAIDU** well Edu Imly seeks SM4 fair and hsome Engr son 27/ 5'10", wrking 5l(Tech) cybercrime stn Trichy, , contact with BHP: Cont: 9443768130

**HINDU SOURASHTRA,** Madurai 35yrs/ 6 ft, M.E (IT), SWE, Bangalaru, 15 L PA seeks suitable Bride. Caste No Bar. 99436 42672

### TAMIL

**DOCTOR RADIOLOGIST,** Hindu Pillai BC, 31, tall fair affluent family seeks Doctor bride BC/MBC. 9865167703

**NAIDU 34, Handsome, B.Tech, Business, Divorcee, Seeks Beautiful Bride Below 30 yrs. Unmarried / Widow. Without Issues. CNB Ct: 9841010419**

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# Corporate conferences inch towards zero waste

## Sustainability consultants say the trend is gaining ground, but progress towards deeper green thinking is still slow-paced

LIFFY THOMAS
BENGALURU

In July, strategy consulting firm Zinnov organised 'Confluence 2022', an event that stood out as much for its sustainability component as for the array of thought leaders it paraded.

The sustainability narrative began at the very beginning. Mailers to attendees urged them to carry their own water bottles, notebooks and pens. It however did not leave anything to chance. At the venue, water stations were established. Paper pencils sourced from rural Karnataka were kept 'on the ready'. Delegates were encouraged to carpool. Plastic ID cards were replaced with seed badges tied to reusable cotton lanyards. The programme agenda was available through QR code scan. At the food counter, biodegradable kulhads sourced from Varanasi served tea and coffee. With Hasiru Dala as eco partner, the waste generated at the event was either upcycled, recycled or converted to biofuel.

The green list is longer. Among the 35 items on the sustainability checklist were MDF-made booths as they are recyclable; swapping physical standees with digital ones; getting power from BS6-compliant generators; and using floor carpeting that optimises sound.

Businesses that help brands adopt sustainable practices and zero-waste solutions note corporate India is taking baby steps towards green thinking. Last year,

Traditional clay cups were used to serve tea at a conference organised by Zinnov. •SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Steelcase partnered with Bare Necessities for a series of in-person workshops to help it transition to a sustainable organisation. Similarly, a car-manufacturing company with 800 employees was handheld for a year with campaigns, events and research to adopt sustainable practices. "To embrace sustainability, it is important to engage employees in the co-creation of sustainable practices. For instance, Cognizant engaged with us for a self-paced online course 'Zero waste living 101' for its global workforce to see how one can transition the daily routine to one that is zero-waste and extend it to other aspects of life," says Mehul Manjeshwar and Sahar Mansoor of Bare Necessities.

### Measuring carbon level

Anoop Babu, founder, Vydyuthi Energy Services, which was hired as consultant for a three-day national conference held in the city recently, says food and transport contributes to the maximum carbon emission at corporate events. "Through various intervention, pre, during and post the meet, we help bring down the carbon emission," says Mr. Babu.

In pre-COVID times, some conferences had tried to adopt a few sustainable practices. "Inclusion Now" conference organised by Interweave Consulting had elegantly wrapped jugs of water in each table for the attendees to refill. The National HRD (NHRD) conference replaced the printed agenda with information accessed via a QR code.

Planning and executing such sustainability conferences is hardly easy, especially if it wants to be consistent. Nitika Goel, chief marketing officer, Zinnov, spells out what makes these initiatives time-consuming. "Planning the little details like moving everything to the electronic space, associating with partners that help us source ethically and constantly thinking of every angle of reusability," says Ms. Goel.

### Cost factor

Ms. Goel says it is the question of demand and supply. "If kulhads are demanded in every single conference, then a business can be created, and when you do it at scale, the cost comes down," she says, adding that the company is creating a playbook that lists down the A to Z of running a sustainable conference that will be sent to members of its global capability centres.

# Burglar involved in 46 house break-ins caught

•SEBASTIAN FRANCIS

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The HSR Layout police arrested a 39-year-old burglar who has 46 cases pending against him. The police recovered 750 grams of gold valuables which he had stolen from houses in and around south-east division over the past one year.

The police said they were shocked to know his lifestyle as Pakash Balaji used to live in a fully furnished rented apartment in Murugeshpalya. Though he had three wives in different parts of the city, he would prefer to visit them often but prefer to live alone, blowing the money on vices like online gambling and drugs, C.K. Baba, DCP, south-east, said.

The accused had a big smart TV worth over a lakh which he bought from a reputed showroom to watch his favourite crime thrillers and stories on famous thefts.

The police said the accused started his career as a footwear thief in Kalasipalya when he was 19 years old. He used to work under a seasoned habitual offender, Kataiah, who used to hire juveniles to steal footwear from outside temples and religious places to sell it in the market.

Balaji was arrested many times for thefts and every time he went to prison, he would get updates from habitual offenders on the tricks of the trade on how to break in and steal, said the police.

The modus operandi of the accused was simple, the police said. He would visit apartments and houses on rent as a prospective tenant and while checking, he would click the picture of the key on his mobile clandestinely and get the duplicate key. The accused would conduct a recce on his scooter and then wait for the families to check into the apartment which he had seen and steal valuables.

He would sell the stolen valuables to his contacts and spend money on his wives and on himself buying drugs and gambling until he got to the next targets.

The accused used to work alone, but have a fleet of nine advocates to work for him and get him out on bail whenever he was caught.

Despite having 46 house-break cases, he would come out on bail within 250 days every time, a police officer said.

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# Row over government high school property in Chickpet continues

## Revenue Dept.'s decision to sell or auction property has drawn flak

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

The row over the government high school property in Chickpet continued as Congress leader D.K. Shivakumar visited the spot on Saturday.

The Revenue Department is planning to auction or sell the building in contention, Rajatha Complex, which hosts a 77-year old government high school, along with other commercial establishments. The department has also refused to register the property under the school's name as per the request of the Department of School Education and Literacy. The move has attracted a lot of flak from citizens and leaders of the opposition parties.

The building that houses the government high school in Chickpet. •K. MURALI KUMAR

Mr. Shivakumar said that following reports in the media, he visited the school to inspect the problems. He said that he would speak further about the issue only after verifying the records.

In a detailed letter written by Vishal R., Commissioner, Department of Public Instruction, to the Revenue Department and the Deputy Commissioner of Bengaluru Urban district, it is said that the land on which the complex is built belongs to the Education Department as the government school has been functioning there since 1945.

Later, in 1979, the land was leased out to a private party and in 2011, Rajatha Welfare Association secured the lease for a period of ten years. After the completion of the lease period, the association approached the Revenue Department to directly buy the land and the building as they would not be able to continue the lease for personal reasons.

The commissioner has requested the concerned departments not to hand over the property to a private party as it might hamper the educational activities of the students studying in the school.

Speaking to *The Hindu* about the further course of action, Mr Vishal said, "We are the beneficiaries of the Revenue Department. They would have to intervene and we are taking it up with them. The tahsildar will also be officially contacted by the DDPI. We will also write to the Deputy Commissioner to facilitate the Department of Education to retain the position of the school."

# Onion merchant among four held for murder

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The Parappana Agarahara police on Friday arrested an onion merchant and three of his associates who allegedly beat up a 25-year-old truck driver to death and pushed him before the moving truck following a trivial row over road rage in Shanthipura on Thursday night.

The accused, Bhaskar, Pawan, and two others barged into the house of their neighbour Harikrishna and dragged him out, accusing him of breaking the side mirror of their vehicle while parking his vehicle.

The accused also caught 19-year-old Subhash, the nephew of Harikrishna, who came to the rescue of his uncle. Subhash had come to visit his uncle at the time of the incident. The police said the accused dragged the duo and started beating them up mercilessly, while Harikrishna's father Budde Babu, 46, a housekeeping staff at an online marketing firm, pleaded to leave them and promised to pay for the damages.

However, the accused were so furious that they started kicking and punching the duo and pushed Harikrishna before a truck passing by, before the hapless father. The truck driver sped away, the police said.

Harishkrishna was killed on the spot and the accused fled the scene, leaving Subhash behind. Budde Baba, with the help of neighbours, rushed the duo to a nearby hospital where the doctors declared Hariskrishna as brought dead, while Subhash is being treated at the hospital.

C.K. Baba, DCP, South-East division, visited the spot and formed a team to track down the accused. The police swung into action and track down the accused on the outskirts of Mandya. The accused have been booked for the charges of murder, trespass and wrongful confinement and remanded them to judicial custody.

# Man arrested for blackmailing people for sexual favours

## The accused would visit relatives and friends, and place USB-type camera in their bedrooms and bathrooms

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The Northeast division cyber crime police on Saturday arrested a 30-year-old private firm employee for allegedly recording videos of his relatives and friends with a spy camera and blackmailing them for sexual favours.

Based on a complaint by one of the victims, the police tracked down the accused Mahesh V. from T. Narasipur taluk in Mysuru district and recovered a laptop, memory cards and USB charger type hidden camera from him.

The police also found many other video clips recorded by the accused with which he was blackmailing the victims, but no one had filed a complaint fearing social stigma.

Anoop A Shetty, DCP, Northeast division, said the accused would target his relatives and friends, wherein he would visit their houses often and place the USB in the bedroom and bathroom to record the videos.

Using these videos, he would then contact the victims on their social media account with fake identity and blackmail them. The accused would also send clips of the videos to their account and seek online sexual favours, the police said.

While many victims obliged his demand fearing social stigma, one of the victims who was blackmailed noticed that the video was recorded in her bedroom and complained to the police.

Based on the complaint, the police tracked down the accused and arrested him. He was charged with blackmail, sexual harassment and also under various sections of the IT Act and remanded to judicial custody.

# College dropout held for killing grandfather for property

## According to the police, the accused needed money to start a business

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Yelahanka police arrested a 20-year-old college dropout who, along with his associate, allegedly killed his 70-year-old grandfather to death to get his share of the family property.

The deceased is C. Puttaiah, a retired lab assistant of Kendriya Vidyalaya. He was living alone in a house at Surabhi Layout after the death of his wife. The deceased has four children who were staying separately and used to visit him once in a while.

The accused has been identified as Jayanth Balle from Kuvempunagar in Mysuru, and his associate Yaseen, 22, from Gorur in Hassan district.

According to the police, Jayanth wanted to start a business and needed money. He decided to apply for a business loan. He sought help from his grandfather, C. Puttaiah, for a share of their ancestral property for the required surety for the business loan, but in vain.

He decided to kill Puttaiah to get a share of the property, according to Inspector V Balaji who probed the case.

On August 17, Jayanth entered the house in the morning and bludgeoned Puttaiah to death. He removed the gold ring of the deceased and ransacked the house to make the crime appear like murder for gain, police said.

The murder came to light when neighbours noticed that Puttaiah was not to be seen since morning. They informed Puttaiah's son Naveen, whose family resides in K.S. Layout.

Naveen went to the house and found Puttaiah's body in the bedroom. He informed the police.

Police examined CCTV footage and, with the help of technical details, zeroed in on Jayanth on August 20.

# Two children with cataract regain vision following surgery

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Two children suffering from traumatic cataract and lamellar developmental cataract have regained vision with intraocular lens (IOL) implantation. They were operated at the District Hospital in Chickballapur under the National Blindness Control programme.

Shivakumar, Chickballapur District Blindness Control Officer, said the children – aged nine and 11 years – are the first paediatric cases to undergo the surgery at the district hospital. "We identified the children and a team of doctors at the hospital immediately conducted the procedure as any delay can deteriorate vision. Four more children have been identified and are being worked up for the procedure," he said.

State Health Commissioner Randeep D., who tweeted about the surgery, said nine-year-old Lochita, who had a history of vision loss in both her eyes since birth, was diagnosed with bilateral congenital lamellar cataract. The girl has regained vision in one eye following the procedure. Her second eye surgery is scheduled on August 23, he said.

"The second child, 11-year-old Sudharshan, came with a history of injury in his left eye with a stick while playing. Following the injury, he suffered complete vision loss. He was diagnosed with 'traumatic cataract' and he underwent cataract extraction and IOL implantation on August 18. The boy has regained vision following the procedure," he said.

### Rare in children

Cataracts, which are common in adults as they age, are rare in children. K. Bhujang Shetty, chairman of Narayana Nethralaya, said congenital cataracts can be present from birth in children. They can also appear as a result of eye injuries, known as 'traumatic cataracts', he said. Asserting on the need for early intervention, the doctor said cataracts can affect one eye (unilateral) or both eyes (bilateral). "Some cataracts are small and do not majorly affect vision. However, other more progressive cataracts can cause permanent vision damage. Such children need to be operated as soon as they are diagnosed," the doctor said.

# Power shutdown for two hours

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

There will be no power supply on Sunday between 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. in view of cable termination and other related maintenance works.

According to a release from Bescom, Koramangala Division, the areas that will be affected include: 66/11 KV CESSNA Sub Station: Kalyani Tech Park, Exora Tech Park, Oracle Tech Park, Cessna Tech Park, Kadubeesanahalli and surrounding areas.

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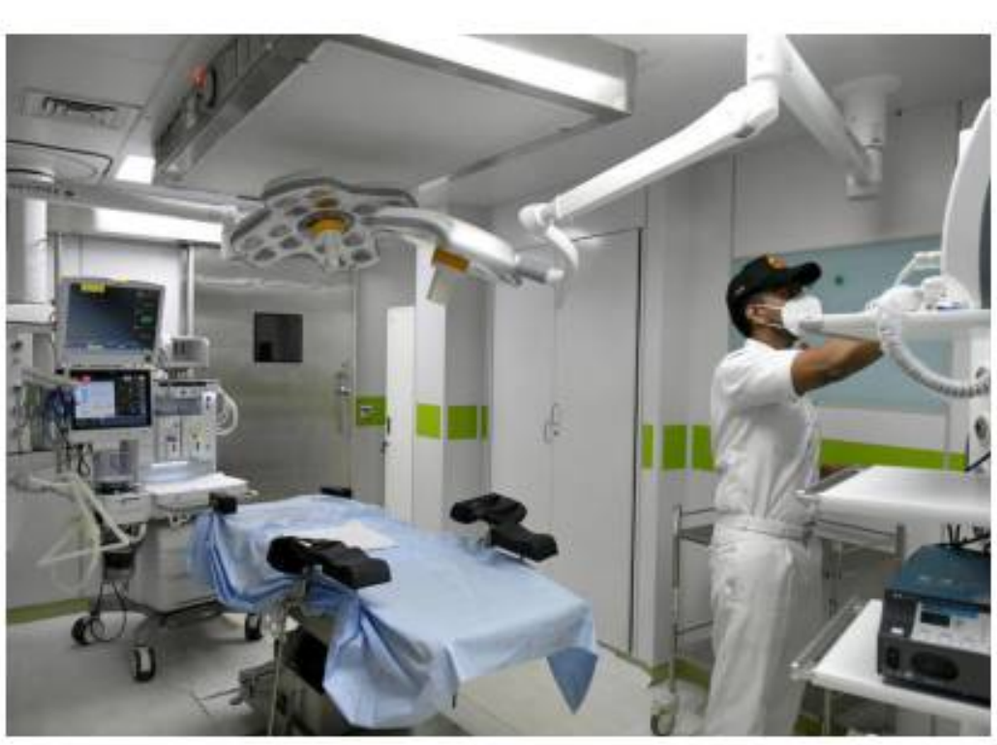
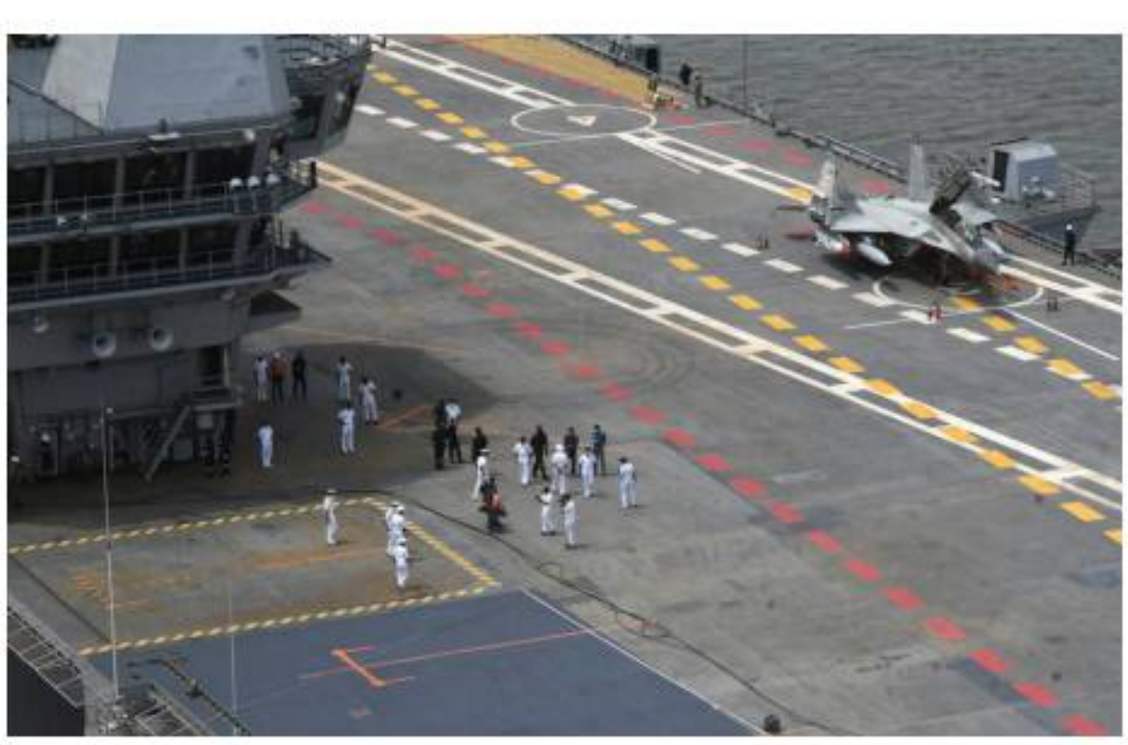
**Vast expanse:** The ship's island structure with the pennant number, R11, is to the starboard side.

**Jet parking:** A MiG-29K fighter aircraft sits snugly in its hangar.

**Keeping track:** The control centre of the ship.



**Health hub:** An operation theatre, a telemedicine facility and a CT scan unit are available on board.



**Ready to go:** *INS Vikrant* is set to be inducted into the naval fleet in September.

**Timings**
**BENGALURU**

| | |
|---|---|
| **SUNDAY, AUG. 21** | |
| RISE 06:08 | SET 18:37 |
| RISE 00:55 | SET 14:11 |
| **MONDAY, AUG. 22** | |
| RISE 06:08 | SET 18:37 |
| RISE 01:44 | SET 15:03 |
| **TUESDAY, AUG. 23** | |
| RISE 06:08 | SET 18:36 |
| RISE 02:34 | SET 15:54 |

| Bengaluru Weather | max | min |
|---|---|---|
| Tumakuru | 31 | 23 |
| Mysuru | 32 | 20 |
| Bengaluru | 29 | 21 |

**Bengaluru Today**
**29°C** The weather will be slight warm and humid. Night will be pleasant.Chances of light rain and thundershower at few places.

**Bengaluru Tomorrow**
**30°C** A slight warm and humid weather to prevail. Night will be pleasant. Spell of light rain and thundershower may occur.

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THE HINDU
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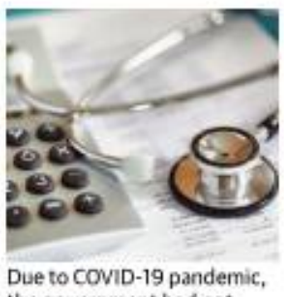
# Private medical colleges to demand 30% to 35% fee hike

## Monday's meeting with the government is also expected to discuss seat-sharing ratio

JAYANTH R.
BENGALURU

Private medical and dental colleges are placing a proposal before the State government to hike the government and institutional quota MBBS and BDS fee by 30% to 35% for the academic year of 2022-23. They are citing financial sufferings during the COVID-19 pandemic over the two years, as the main reason for seeking fee hike.

The government will be holding a meeting with private medical and dental college managements on August 22, Monday, on the issue of fee hike and seats sharing.


Due to COVID-19 pandemic, the government had not permitted a fee hike over the last two years.

**Consensual agreement**
According to the consensual agreement between the government, and private medical and dental colleges, there is provision to hike the MBBS and BDS fee from 15% to 25% every year. However, due to COVID-19 pandemic, the government had not permitted a fee hike over the last two years. Therefore, they are now demanding a fee hike of up to 35%.

Despite an order by National Medical Council (NMC) that fee for 50% of seats in private medical colleges, deemed to be universities should be on a par with the fee in the government medical colleges of the particular state and union territory, it is yet to be implemented in the State.

The seat-sharing ratio between private and government seats is also to be discussed in the meeting proposed to be held on Monday.

**Seat-sharing issues**
In Karnataka, the medical seat ratio between government and private medical colleges and deemed-to-be universities so far has been 40:60, though this is not strictly followed by some who push more into the management category which go for high price.

According to the NMC order, all the private medical and dental colleges and deemed-to-be universities must reserve 50% of MBBS and BDS seats as a government quota seats. However, till now, the State government has not issued any order in this regard. All these issues will be addressed on the Monday's meeting.

Dr. B.L. Sujatha Rathod, Director, Directorate of Medical Education, told *The Hindu*, "NEET-2022 result will be announced soon and the counselling will be started around the second week of the month of September. Last two years there was no fee hike. This year, private medical and dental colleges are placing some new demand. Therefore, we are holding a meeting on August 22. At the same time, we will also discuss the consensual agreement on the seat sharing."

**Pandemic impact**
Dr. M.R. Jayaram, honorary secretary of Karnataka Private Medical and Dental Colleges Association, said, "The finances of medical college managements were hit during the pandemic. Many college managements also complained that due to the effect of the pandemic during the last two years they sold the NRI quota and management quota seats for lower prices compared to the previous years. We are requesting the State government to hike the fee of government and institutional quota MBBS and BDS seats significantly to tide over this crisis."

# Two killed, 35 injured in Athani as truck rams college bus

Police removing the truck that hit a bus in Belagavi district on Saturday. *SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BELAGAVI

Two men were killed and at least 35 students injured when a goods truck rammed a college bus in Athani in Belagavi district on Saturday morning. As many as 21 suffered serious injuries.

A 23-year-old goods truck driver Mallikjan Mujawar of Kalabilagi in Vijayapura district and 46-year-old Raghunath Avatade of Athani were killed on the spot. As many as 55 pre-university college students were travelling on the bus.

The goods truck was going to Athani from Miraj and the bus was going to Banajawad from Athani.

The goods truck hit the college bus on the right side, killing the drivers of the two vehicles. The injured students were admitted to hospitals in Miraj, Belagavi and Athani. Some were treated as outpatients and sent home.

An injured student was shifted to a private hospital in Miraj of Maharashtra and a teacher was shifted to the KLE Hospital in Belagavi.

The police cleared the road for traffic after removing the two vehicles.

Superintendent of Police Sanjiv Patil visited the spot. He thanked the local residents, doctors and others who helped shift the injured to hospitals. "The entire medical fraternity of Athani came together to help the children and teachers. I express my gratitude to them," he told journalists.

District in-charge Minister Govind Karjol called the Superintendent of Police to inquire about the accident.

# Experts have to do a scientific audit of judiciary: SC judge Oka

## Judge-to- population ratio is 21 for every million as of Dec. 2021, when the need for 50 judges per million was required way back in 2002'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

A systematic and scientific performance audit of the judiciary in India has to be done by experts before making any statement on its success or failure in 75 years of Independence, said Justice Abhay Shreeniwas Oka, a judge of the Supreme Court here on Saturday.

"We cannot say either that the judiciary has done a great job or it has completely failed as the truth is that performance lies somewhere in the middle. The proper way to assess its performance is through a performance audit," he said while making it clear that one cannot make an off-the-cuff remark on performance of the judiciary.

He was delivering a talk on "India's judicial system in its 75th year and the vision to build it as the best justice delivery system in the word - the role of judges and lawyers in this endeavour" after inaugurating the official website of the Advocates' Association, Bengaluru.

Making it clear that he was presenting the views not in his official capacity but based on his experience of 39 years in the legal profession, both as a lawyer and as a judge, Justice Oka said that several sections of the society are yet to have access to justice delivery system for various reasons.

**Speed of justice delivery**
A grey area for the judiciary is the speed of delivery of justice, he said, while pointing out that country's judge-to-population ratio is 21 for every million population as of December 2021 when the need for 50 judges per million was required way back in 2002.

However, he said that the judiciary has performed well in the area of ensuring that welfare laws were implemented by the executives as the high courts and the apex court have issued continuous mandamus to achieve this goal.

Justice Oka said that the justice-delivery system can be improved by the use of information technology even at the taluk level and the judiciary can achieve more in the next 25 years than what it has achieved in the past 75 years of both the lawyers and the judges turn their minds to the common man-centirc issues. "Introspection and innovation is needed for constant improvement of the judiciary," he said.

**Pending for 60 years**
What moral right do we (judges and lawyers) have to celebrate 75 years of independence when there are cases pending for the past 60 years in a court in Belagavi, asked Justice B. Veerappa, a judge of the High Court.

## Judges, lawyers' body differ on settling of cases in Lok Adalats

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

An event organised to launch the official website of the Advocates' Association, Bengaluru (AAB), on Saturday witnessed differences of opinion between the judges and the president of the AAB on amicable settlement of disputes through the Lok Adalats.

Justice B. Veerappa, a senior judge and the Executive Chairperson of the Karnataka State Legal Services Authority (KSLSA) said that there is resistance from lawyers for settling pre-litigation cases in Lok Adalats while pointing out that the presidents of the AAB, including present president Vivek Subba Reddy, is not supporting settlement of cases in Lok Adalats.

Justice Veerappa said that no lawyers will he affected due to settlement of lakhs of cases in Lok Adalats while seeking cooperation from the advocates for Lok Adalats. However, Mr. Reddy said that Lok Adalats has to be reduced a bit as it is affecting the livelihood of the lawyers.

Meanwhile, Justice Abhay Shreeniwas Oka, a judge of the Supreme Court, said advocates will not be affected by settlement of disputes in Lok Adalats even through their income may be affected to some extent.

"The lawyers are the officers of the court first. I don't think that the members of the bar would affected by Lok Adalats. What is needed is the change in mindset," he said while pointing out that lawyers were initially not in favour of weekly Lok Adalats when launched in Maharashtra several years ago.

# BBMP officials told to upload draft voters' list

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

The Karnataka State Election Commission on Saturday held a meeting with the BBMP and Bengaluru Urban district administration officials and gave the officials a target of uploading the draft voters' list on the website by August 25.

The meeting was held by the Karnataka State Election Commission commissioner S. Basavaraj. According to the State Election Commission, at the meeting, officials discussed preparations of electoral rolls and other aspects related to the BBMP polls.

The officials also discussed the setting up of infrastructure for the elections at the booths, supervision of electronic voting machines and also appointing the polling officers.

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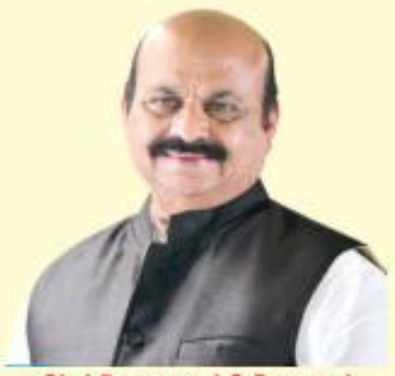
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# Ex-CM has 'repented' the bid to divide community, claims seer

## Siddaramaiah says he explained to the seer in detail what they did on the issue

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
HASSAN/BENGALURU

Bringing back to focus an issue that had turned controversial ahead of the previous Assembly elections in Karnataka, Rambhapuri mutt seer Veerasomeshwara Shivacharya swami has claimed

LINGAYAT ROW

that former Chief Minister Siddaramaiah "repents" his government's efforts to provide separate religion status for Lingayats.

The seer spoke to the media after Siddaramaiah visited the mutt on Friday. "There was an allegation against Mr. Siddaramaiah that he attempted to 'divide Lingayats' from Veerashaiva religion. Now he has expressed his grief with an open mind," the seer said in Balehonnur.

"Mr. Siddaramaiah told me he did not make an attempt to divide the community, but some people misled him, and he repents that. He assured me that he will not get into the issue of religion, but concentrate on development of the State henceforth," the seer said.

Veerasomeshwara Shivacharya Swami

**I only explained: Ex-CM**

Later, speaking to mediapersons in Hassan, Siddaramaiah, however, said he did not "repent", but had only explained the turn of events and circumstances to the seer in detail.

"I explained what all we did while taking such a decision. There had been a malicious propaganda on this issue at that time. I told him it all began with a petition from Shamanur Shivashankarappa and the Veerashaiva Mahasabha seeking a separate religious status for Veerashaivas. I never intended to divide the community in the first place," Mr. Siddaramaiah said.

**Won't say anything: CM**

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai said he is not aware of Mr. Siddaramaiah "repenting" his government's attempts at giving religion status to Lingayat community.

Speaking to reporters at Vidhana Soudha, he declined to comment on it but said that the people of Karnataka know what happened about the Lingayat religion.

"It was a talk held between Mr. Siddaramaiah and seer. The seer has said that Mr. Siddaramaiah showed repentance on the Lingayat religion issue. Even Mr. Siddaramaiah has commented on it. I am not aware of the statements of the two, so I don't want to say anything. But the truth of what happened in that situation is known to all," the Chief Minister said.

**The background**

Ir may be recalled that following a demand by Akhila Bharata Veerashaiva Mahasabha and Jagatika Lingayata Mahasabha (a later formation), the Siddaramaiah-led government had proactively taken up the issue of providing a separate religion tag to "Lingayats and Veerashaivas (believers of Basava philosophy)" and forwarded a recommendation to the Centre. However, the community was divided on whether or not it is beneficial to seek a separate religion tag. It is argued that these efforts did not go in Congress's favour in the 2018 elections.

# Efforts will continue after elections, says M.B. Patil

## He clarifies there was never an intent to bring in a divide

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
HUBBALLI

Clarifying that there was never an intent to divide religion, chairman of KPCC Campaign Committee M.B. Patil on Saturday said that the issue of getting minority tag for Lingayats will be taken forward after the elections, taking all seers and heads of Veerashaiva-Lingayat community into confidence.

Replying to queries at a press conference in Hubballi on Saturday, Mr. Patil, however, declined to comment on the reported apology tendered by Congress leader Siddaramaiah before the seer of Sri Rambhapuri Peetha.

He said that he will not like to comment on what transpired between Mr. Siddaramaiah and the seer of Sri Rambhapuri Peetha. He added that he will also be meeting the seer shortly.

On whether the movement for religion status for Lingayat had ended, Mr. Patil clarified that it will continue but in a more planned and coordinated way after the general elections.

KPCC Campaign Committee chairman M.B. Patil addressing presspersons in Hubballi on Saturday. • KIRAN BAKALE

"We never intended to divide religion. In fact, all the 99 sub-sects of Lingayat had been taken into confidence when we made the demand for religion status and minority tag so that minority status will help the children of the community. Now also we want to take all together in our efforts," he said.

"There are differences, we agree. But efforts will be made to take all, including the Panchacharyas and seers of Virakta Mutts, into confidence to go forward. It will happen after the elections as the issue is likely to take a year or two or even more," he said. He also clarified that there is no change in his stance that efforts should be made for getting benefits to all sub-sects of Lingayat.

# IAS officers transferred

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

The State government on Saturday transferred a few IAS officers.

Kapil Mohan has been given concurrent charge of the post of Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Bengaluru. Umashankar S.R. has been appointed as Principal Secretary to Government, Co-operation Department, Bengaluru.

Selvakumar S. has been appointed as Principal Secretary to Government, PWD, Bengaluru. He has also been given concurrent charge of Principal Secretary to Government, Department of Skill Development, Entrepreneurship and Livelihood, Bengaluru.

Ponnuraj V. has been given the concurrent charge of Secretary to Government, Education Department. Girish R. has been posted as CEO and Executive Member, KIADB, Bengaluru. N. Shivashankara has been posted as Director of Municipal Administration, Bengaluru.

Archana M.S. has been posted as DC, Hassan.

# ₹250 crore will be released for hostels of backward class students: Bommai

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The State government has decided to release ₹250 crore for administration, maintenance and expenditure of the student hostels coming under the jurisdiction of Backward Classes Welfare Department.

Speaking at a function organised to mark the 107th birth anniversary of former Chief Minister late D. Devaraj Urs at the Vidhana Soudha here on Saturday, Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai said funds would be utilised to increase intake capacity of students' hostels by 25%.

A total 50 hostels are being built in the name of Kanakadasa and five multi-storied buildings are being constructed in different regions of the State for providing accommodation to 1,000 students each in each hostel, he said.

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai at a photo exhibition on D. Devaraj Urs at Vidhana Soudha in Bengaluru on Saturday.

A sum of ₹4 crore had been set aside for providing scholarship for students pursuing doctoral degrees on Devaraj Urs's work and ₹10 crore for providing scholarships for students pursuing studies abroad, he said.

In memory of social reformer Sri Narayan Guru, Mr. Bommai said four Sri Narayana Guru Residential Schools will be started, one each in the districts of Udupi, Dakshina Kannada, Uttara Kannada, and Shivamogga. A sum of ₹800 crore has been provided to various corporations of backward classes, the Chief Minister said.

Mr. Bommai acknowledged the services of Urs in upliftment of backward classes in politics, economic, social and academics. The concept of "tiller being the owner of land" was a revolutionary decision implemented by him under the Land Reforms Act, he said.

**Award to doctor**

Mr. Bommai and Backward Classes Minister Kota Srinivas Poojary presented the prestigious D. Devaraj Urs State-level award for 2022-23 to M. Annayya Kulal Ulthur, a doctor from Mangaluru, for his contribution in the field of health and community-based health promotion.

# 'Man who threw eggs at ex-CM's car is from Cong.'

## Siddaramaiah asks why MLA rushed to the rescue of accused if he was not from BJP

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MYSURU

The controversy over the demonstrations against former Chief Minister Siddaramaiah during his recent visit to Kodagu took a new twist on Saturday with the BJP leaders claiming that the man arrested for hurling eggs at Mr. Siddaramaiah's car was a Congress worker.

BJP MLA representing Madikeri segment Appachu Ranjan told reporters that his inquiries with partymen had revealed that Sampath, the man arrested by the police for throwing eggs at Mr. Siddaramaiah's car in Guddehosur in Kushal Nagar, was a Congress worker.

He said the accused worked in the construction industry as a bar-bender. However, his father Sundarmurthy was in the BJP, he added.

Meanwhile, accused Sampath appeared in television interviews and claimed that he was a follower of veteran politician B.A. Jivijaya. He said he was with the JD(S) earlier and joined Congress later following his leader. He claimed that he was upset with Mr. Siddaramaiah for his "anti-Hindu" remarks.

**Congress refutes 'Operation Kamala'**

However, Congress leaders took exception to the efforts by BJP leaders to portray the accused as a Congress worker. Kodagu's Youth Congress leader Mithun Gowda and the party's legal cell leader in Kodagu Ponnanna contended that the accused Sampath was a BJP worker and a close aide of Mr. Ranjan.

Mr. Siddaramaiah, reacting to the BJP's claim, sought to know why Mr. Ranjan went to the police station in the night to secure his release.

"Did he (Mr. Ranjan) put a condition that he will secure his release from the police only if he (Sampath) claims he is from the Congress?" he tweeted.

Remarking that BJP had proved in Madikeri that it was not restricting its "Operation Kamala" only to legislators, but was extending it even to "street thugs," Mr. Siddaramaiah, in his tweet, asked the ruling party to send the person accused of throwing eggs to the jail if he was from the Congress instead of shielding him.

The Kodagu police said that the arrest of Sampath on Saturday has taken the total number of people arrested in connection with the protests against Mr. Siddaramaiah by waving black flags and throwing eggs to 10 by Kushal Nagar police and seven by Madikeri police.

Meanwhile, Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai has said that instructions had been issued to the police department to step up security to Mr. Siddaramaiah.

# Court rejects plea against law allowing abatement of case on death of accused

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka rejected a petition filed by an octogenarian, who had questioned the legality of the provision in the Code of Criminal Procedure (Cr.P.C), 1973, for abatement of criminal proceedings on the death of the accused.

Referring to some judgments on the laws of abatement in countries like U.S. and Australia, the court said that provision for abatement of the criminal proceedings as they exist in Cr.P.C are "universal and time tested." Justice Krishna S. Dixit passed the order while dismissing the petition by V. Varadaraju, 89, a resident of Bengaluru.

"The policy of the State as enacted in statutes which provide for the final abatement of appeals on the death of accused are animated with legislative wisdom & logic. It is a matter of pure legislative policy that death of the accused should put an end to criminal proceedings. Therefore, the said provision cannot be voided," the court observed.

The court also said, "It is a matter of legislative policy that in certain circumstances, the criminal proceeding should abate on the death of the accused. In what circumstances abatement should happen is left to the legislative wisdom gained through the experience of ages. Legal systems in most civilized jurisdictions operate with a premise that personality of an individual begins with birth and ends with death."

The petitioner had filed a cheque dishonour complaint against a person and it had ended in dismissal of his complaint against the accused before the trial court. However, petitioner's appeal against trial court was treated abated by the High Court following the death of respondent-accused.


ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ ನಗರಾಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರ, ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ
**BELAGAVI URBAN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, BELAGAVI**
ಫೋನ್/ದೂರವಾಣಿ: 0831-2470342, 2470257
E-mail:belagavibuda@gmail.com

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆಬೆನಪ್ರಾ/ಲೋಕಾ/ಇಪ್ರೋ-48/2022-23/2009 ದಿನಾಂಕ:20.08.2022.

**SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION**

Commissioner, Belagavi Urban Development Authority,Belagaviinvites tenders from eligible tenders registered in PWD/ZP/CPWD for the works taken under Belagavi Urban Development Authority Grants works in standard tender document through E-Procurement portal for further details visit online web site https:/www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in. The deatils of the time table of tenders are as follows.

| | |
|---|---|
| Number of works | 2No's |
| Estimated Cost | Rs 34.64 Lakhs to 97.83 Lakhs |
| EMD in Rs | Rs 69500.0 to 196000.0 |
| Last Date for Reciept of Tenders/Bids through | 05.09.2022 Up to 16:00 Hrs |
| Date of Opening of Technical Bid | 06.09.2022 Up to 16:30 Hrs |
| Date of Opening of Financial Bid | 09.09.2022 Up to 16:30 Hrs |

Sd/-Executive Engineer. Belagavi Urban Development Authority Belagavi
Sd/-Commissioner, Belagavi Urban Development Authority Belagavi



**UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES BANGALORE**
Estate Office, GKVK, Bangalore-560 065.
NO.EO/CANTEEN/GKVK/2022-23, DATED: 19-08-2022

**PRE-QUALIFICATION RE-TENDER NOTIFICATION FOR CATERERS**

Technical bids are invited from the **REPUTED CATERERS / HOTEL AGENCIES** who have registered under Contract Labour Act and having a capacity to cater to a minimum of 2000 persons consisting of Staff and Students for running the **Vegetarian Canteen at Botanical Garden premises at UAS, GKVK, Bangalore.** The tenderer should submit the Technical Bid on or before **02-09-2022 at 2.00 P.M.** in sealed cover to the Estate Officer.
The technical bid should contain: **1) Registration Certificate, 2) Experience Certificates, 3) Manpower details, 4) Solvency for a minimum of Rs. 2.00 lakhs, 5) Photos of the existing Hotels with details.** Further details can be had from the office of the undersigned during the office hours. The University reserves the right to accept or reject any or all Tenders without assigning any reasons. The Technical Bid will be opened on **05-09-2022 at 11.00 a.m.** The Canteen Supervisory Committee will scrutinize the Technical Bids and finalize the Tender. The Financial Bid will be obtained from the agencies who qualifies in the Technical Bid.

DIPR/CP/RO1874/AAPL/2022-23
Sd/-
ESTATE OFFICER

HAVE SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19? CALL APTHAMITRA ON 14410
Wear Mask | 6 Feet Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene



**Directorate of Fisheries, Odisha, Cuttack**
Date: 17.08.2022

**CORRIGENDUM-2**

With reference to the earlier advertisement published for RFP-8 on 07-06-2022 and corrigendum issued on 12.07.2022 for extension of last date for submission of Bid till 16.08.2022 , 2 PM **in daily news paper** inviting sealed proposals from eligible bidders for **" Implementation of Indigenous Vessel Tracking and Two-way MSS Communication System for Marine Fishing Crafts (Mechanized Boats) in EEZ including territorial waters of Odisha using ISRO Satellite Transponders "**. It is informed that, the last date for submission of tender documents has been extended and revised as per details mentioned below.

| Sl. No. | List of Key Events | Critical Dates |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Last Date for Submission of Pre-bid queries through email to director.odifish@gmail.com | 25th August - 2022, 6 PM |
| 2 | Date & time of Pre-Bid Meeting through Virtual | 26th August - 2022, 3 PM |
| 3 | Last Date for Submission of Bid | 14th September - 2022, 2 PM |
| 4 | Date of Opening of Technical Bid | 15th September - 2022, 12 PM |
| 5 | Date of Opening of Financial Bid | Will be intimated later |

- Tender documents are now available till **14.09.2022 (Wednesday) 2.00 PM** at **www.fishfedodisha.in**
- The proposal complete in all respects must reach the undersigned by **Speed Post/ Registered Post/Drop in the Tender Box** only latest by **14th September - 2022, 2 PM** in a sealed envelope clearly mentioning on the top of it **"Implementation of Indigenous Vessel Tracking and Two-way MSS Communication System for Marine Fishing Crafts (Mechanized Boats) in EEZ including territorial waters of Odisha using ISRO Satellite Transponders"**. The proposals received beyond the last date and time will be rejected. The authority reserves the right to reject any/ all proposals without assigning any reason thereof.
- All the terms and conditions as prescribed in previous RFP notice will remain the same.

**Director of Fisheries, Odisha, Cuttack**
M-32: OIPR-06015/11/2018/2223



**BANGALORE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**
T. Chowdaiah Road, Kumara Park West, Bengaluru - 560 020.

**CORRIGENDUM**

With reference to the e-Auction Notification No. **BDA/EM/e-Auction/T-03/2022-23 dated 14.07.2022 published in this newspaper on 01.08.2022** due to a technical error the auction of sites of Sl. No. 728 to 789 were cancelled. BDA regrets for the inconvenience. These sites are be re-auctioned. **Last date and time to express interest of participation: 07.09.2022, 6.00PM IST**. Date and time for closing **e-Auction: 08.09.2022, 6.00PM IST.**
The other terms and conditions remain the same.

Sd/- Engineer Member



**CHAMUNDESHWARI ELECTRICITY SUPPLY CORPORATION LIMITED**
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
Superintending Engineer(Ele) Office, O&M Circle,
Jodi Basaveswara Road, Mysore. Telephone No : 0821-2462131, 2462132

NO:SEE/EE(O)/AEE(O)/F-72/2022-23 /4975 Date: 20-08-2022

**SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION (e-Procurement Portal Only)**

Superintending Engineer (Elec), O&M Circle, CESC Mysore invites Short term tenders from eligible bidders for carrying out temporary illumation works on hire basis for roads, Circles and different insignia during Dasara festival-2022 under total turnkey basis. The details regarding participation in the tender can be obtained through e-procurement portal **http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** on or after **22.08.2022, 16:00 hrs** onwards for clarification regarding participating through e-portal. Please contact **help desk +91-8046010000 & +91-8068948777**or e-mail address **support@eprochelpdesk.com**

**For Electricity related complaints Call: 1912**

Sd/-
Superintending Engineer Ele., O&M Circle, CESC, Mysore.
DIPR/MYS/KAWTA/394/2022-23



**KARNATAKA NEERAVARI NIGAM LIMITED**
(A Government of Karnataka Enterprise)
Office of the Executive Engineer, KNNL,Dandavathi Reservoir Project Division,,Shikaripura.
Short Term Tender Notification-18/22-23 Date:10.08.2022
**(Two document System & E-Procurement System Only)**

Short term percentage tender are invited as per K.T.P.P Act2000 on behalf of Managing Director KNNL Bangalore from cligible contractors such as KPWD Class- III & above (For Class-III bidders registration certificate issued by KPWD Shivamogga Circle should be uploaded) The tenders are required to submit lenders only through E- procurement portal of Govt of Karnataka (http:// www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in).
Improvements of Rond Works in Shikaripura Taluk, Amount put to tender Rs. 109.48 lakhs and EMD Rs. 1.10 lakhs. 1) Date of Pre bid mecting: 20-08-2022 @11.00AM.(Olo Executive Engineer, KNNL, DRP Division shikaripura 2) Date of downloading & submission of tender (through e- procurement) will be on 12-08-2022 to 22-08-2022 up to 4.30 PM 3) Opening of technical bid will be on 23-08-2022 @ 5.00 PM 4) Financial bid will be opened after approval of technical bid.
For more details visit websitc from date-12-08-2022 at (http:// www.cproc.karnataka.gov.in).
**Sd/- Executive Engineer. KNNL, DRP Division, shikaripura**
DIPR/smg/no.94/08/22-23/797

## IN BRIEF

### Leopard that killed child captured and relocated

UDHAGAMANDALAM

A leopard that killed a four-year-old child on August 10, 2022 in Udhagai North Forest Range near Doddabetta was captured and released into the Mudumalai Tiger Reserve on Saturday morning. Forest Department officials said the leopard had killed the child during a chance encounter at a private tea estate when the victim had gone into a thicket to relieve herself.

### Vizag officials stranded amid Himachal landslips

VISAKHAPATNAM

A delegation of 78 corporators from Greater Visakhapatnam Municipal Corporation (GVMC) had to face an ordeal of over 10 hours, when their bus was stranded on NH-3 (Kullu-Manali) route on Saturday, due to landslips caused by cloud bursts. Following efforts by the local officials and the Indian Army, the bus finally moved around 12 noon on Saturday, after the road was cleared. The GVMC corporators are on study tour to various Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) since August 16.

### 10-day Kerala Assembly session from tomorrow

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The Kerala Assembly will convene for a ten-day session starting Monday to bring in Bills to replace Ordinances that have lapsed after the Governor declined to give his consent for their repromulgation. The 11 Ordinances that expired include the Kerala Lok Ayukta (Amendment) Ordinance, which has drawn flak from the Opposition ,the Kerala Maritime Board (Amendment) Ordinance, whose constitutionality has been challenged, and Kerala Public Health Ordinance.

# Bail cancelled for 12 in Attappady case

## Prosecution alleged that the accused have violated bail conditions; 13 witnesses had turned hostile

ABDUL LATHEEF NAHA
PALAKKAD

The Special Court for SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, Mannarkkad, on Saturday cancelled the bail given to 12 accused in the Attappady Madhu lynching case.

The decision came in the wake of a request by the prosecution to revoke the bail of the accused.

The prosecution, in its plea on August 10, had sought cancellation of the bail on the ground that the accused had violated the bail conditions and influenced the witnesses. As many as 13 witnesses had turned hostile ever since the court began the trial on June 8.

In a detailed order, Special Court Judge K.M. Ratheesh Kumar said "any further delay in cancellation of the bail of these accused (accused number 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 15 and 16) will leave room for influencing the remaining witnesses in this case, and which in turn may result in complete damaging of the prosecution case."

Justice Ratheesh Kumar said the accused had "influenced the witnesses and are attempting to challenge, rather dictate, the whole criminal administrative system in the country." Any attempt to challenge the rule of law should be seriously dealt with or else "it will erode the public faith in the judicial system which will ultimately result in complete collapse of the judicial system in the country."

Out of the 16 accused in the case, the court cancelled the bail 12 accused.

However, the bail given to the other accused, Husain, Ubaid, Satheesh and Hareesh, was not cancelled.

Madhu

During the hearing on the prosecution's demand, the counsel for some of the accused had cautioned the judge about possible consequences such as "a High Court memo, and bad press with judge's photograph" if he cancelled the bail granted by the High Court.

Justice Ratheesh Kumar, in his order, said "the High Court will never unnecessarily harass subordinate officers if the order is supported by valid reasons. Apart from all these, every judicial officer is expected to discharge his duties without fear or favour."

### Row over death

On February 22, 2018, that Madhu, 27, from the Kadukumanna tribal hamlet, near Mukkali, in Attappady was captured, tied and beaten up by a group of men on charges of alleged thefts. They handed him over to the police, but Madhu died on way to the hospital. The cause of the death was the internal injuries he suffered from the beating.

The police arrested the accused after two days when Madhu's death triggered a row. All the accused, however, secured conditional bail from the High Court on May 30, 2018. The trial of the case got inordinately delayed and no special prosecutor was willing to take up the case.

Following pressure from Madhu's family and human rights activists and the High Court's intervention, the Special Court began the trial on June 8, 2022. But within two months of the trial, 13 witnesses turned hostile, raising concerns of the prosecution losing the case.

The High Court, meanwhile, asked the trial court to complete the trial by August 31. However, the court suspended the trial on August 10 when the prosecution sought the cancellation of the bail given to the accused citing the witnesses turning hostile *en masse* as a reason.

Special public prosecutor Rajesh M. Menon said the trial would resume soon.

## WEATHER WATCH

RAINFALL, TEMPERATURE & AIR QUALITY IN SELECT METROS YESTERDAY

TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 17.00 HRS)

**Forecast for Sunday:** Heavy to very heavy rainfall at isolated places likely over West Madhya Pradesh; heavy to very heavy rainfall at isolated places over Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra; and heavy rainfall at isolated places over Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Haryana, Chandigarh, Delhi, West Uttar Pradesh, Vidarbha, Chhattisgarh, Konkan and Goa

| CITY | RAIN | MAX | MIN | CITY | RAIN | MAX | MIN |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Agartala | 5.0 | 34.6 | 26.0 | Kozhikode | – | 31.4 | 24.6 |
| Ahmedabad | 4.0 | 32.0 | 25.0 | Kurnool | – | 33.4 | 24.0 |
| Aizawl | – | 31.4 | – | Lucknow | 12.0 | 35.4 | 24.5 |
| Allahabad | – | 34.3 | 26.0 | Madurai | – | 35.6 | 25.3 |
| Bengaluru | – | 28.5 | 18.4 | Mangaluru | 4.2 | 29.4 | 24.6 |
| Bhopal | – | – | 24.0 | Mumbai | – | 30.6 | 25.6 |
| Bhubaneswar | 1.0 | 29.8 | 24.9 | Mysuru | – | 32.0 | 21.4 |
| Chandigarh | 4.0 | 33.5 | 26.9 | New Delhi | – | 34.4 | 26.4 |
| Chennai | – | 33.7 | 28.3 | Patna | 25.0 | 34.4 | 25.1 |
| Coimbatore | – | 32.3 | 23.0 | Port Blair | 2.0 | 30.2 | 26.2 |
| Dehradun | 50.0 | 31.5 | 21.6 | Puducherry | – | 31.8 | 26.0 |
| Gangtok | 23.0 | 27.6 | 19.4 | Pune | 2.6 | 27.4 | 21.8 |
| Goa | 8.0 | 31.0 | 25.2 | Raipur | 10.8 | 31.8 | 26.2 |
| Guwahati | – | 37.4 | 25.9 | Ranchi | 54.0 | 29.2 | 21.7 |
| Hubballi | – | 27.0 | 22.0 | Shillong | 0.6 | 27.1 | 18.9 |
| Hyderabad | 1.0 | 30.6 | 22.5 | Shimla | 58.0 | 21.6 | 16.4 |
| Imphal | 0.3 | 29.0 | 20.7 | Srinagar | – | 32.6 | 21.4 |
| Jaipur | – | 33.2 | 25.8 | Thiruvananthapuram | – | 32.2 | 25.2 |
| Kochi | – | 29.6 | 25.8 | Tiruchi | 0.6 | 35.7 | 26.5 |
| Kohima | – | 28.0 | – | Vijayawada | – | 32.3 | 26.3 |
| Kolkata | 45.0 | 30.6 | 25.5 | Visakhapatnam | 6.0 | 29.7 | 26.4 |

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

**Pollutants in the air you are breathing**

| CITIES | $SO_2$ | $NO_2$ | CO | PM2.5 | PM10 | CODE |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Ahmedabad | 36 | 19 | 13 | 32 | 62 | |
| Bengaluru | 7 | 19 | 48 | 36 | 102 | |
| Chennai | 11 | 3 | – | 46 | 78 | |
| Delhi | 20 | 63 | 89 | 55 | 221 | |
| Hyderabad | 10 | 2 | 118 | 30 | 48 | |
| Kolkata | 10 | 10 | 15 | 12 | 28 | |
| Lucknow | 9 | 7 | 54 | 19 | 29 | |
| Mumbai | 4 | 4 | 99 | 12 | 15 | |
| Pune | – | – | – | – | – | |
| Visakhapatnam | 12 | 37 | 21 | 51 | 84 | |

**Yesterday**

In observations made at 4.00 p.m., Mandi Gobindgarh, Punjab recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 243 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Aizawl, Mizoram recorded a healthy AQI score of 20

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

**$SO_2$:** Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

**$NO_2$:** Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

**CO:** Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

**PM2.5 & PM10:** Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

## *Sea of devotees*

A large number of people participating in the Vitla Pindi celebrations as part of Sri Krishna Janmashtami in Udupi on Saturday. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

# Federalism applies to judiciary too: Madras HC

MOHAMED IMRANULLAH S.
CHENNAI

Federalism is a part of the basic structure of the Constitution and it applies to the judiciary as well. A High Court in one State cannot exercise powers which, under normal circumstances, can be exercised only by the High Court in another State, the Madras High Court has said, while holding that only the Karnataka High Court can rule on a dispute related to removing a Bengaluru medical college from the ambit of a deemed-to-be university in Chennai.

Justice Abdul Quddhose directed the High Court Registry to return a joint writ petition filed by Dr. MGR Educational and Research Institute in Chennai and the Raja Rajeswari Medical College and Hospital in Bengaluru challenging an order passed by the Union Ministry of Education on May 24 this year.

The Ministry had withdrawn a notification issued on February 14, 2019 declaring that the Bengaluru college would fall within the ambit of the Chennai university.

Since the order under challenge had been passed by the Centre pursuant to a direction issued by the Karnataka High Court on November 30, 2021 to reconsider the grant of the '2019 ambit notification', the present writ petition ought to have been filed only in Karnataka, Justice Quddhose held.

**RASHTRIYA MILITARY SCHOOL, BENGALURU**

**(A Residential Public School under Ministry of Defence Govt of India & Affiliated to CBSE, Delhi)**

**(WALK IN INTERVIEW)**

Required Teachers on Contractual basis:-

| Sl No | Vacancy | No of Vacancy |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Assistant Master (TGT, Hindi) | (01) |
| 2 | Assistant Master (TGT, Biology) | (01) |
| 3 | Counsellor | (01) |

(open to all categories)

Eligibility, service conditions and Application Forms are available on

www.rashtriyamilitaryschools.edu.in

**A walk-in interview will be conducted on 24 Aug 2022 at 0900 hrs**

**Eligible Candidates to report to school directly**

Principal

**RAICHUR POWER CORPORATION LIMITED**

(YERMAURS THERMAL POWER STATION)

(A JOINT VENTURE COMPANY OF KPCL, BHEL)

CIN : U40101KA2009PLC049582

No: KPCL/2022-23/PS/WORK_INDENT12815 Date: 19.08.2022

**SHORT-TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION**

RPCL, invites tenders through GoK e-Procurement platform **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in** under the category "WORKS" for **"Unit-2 Hot PA interconnection duct restoration work".** Last date of receipt of tender: **27.08.2022 at 16.30 Hrs.** All relevant details are available in the above said e-Portal. Further details can be obtained from the Office of **Executive Engineer (M-1), RPCL, YTPS, Yeramarus-584134, Dist. Raichur. Mob: 9448649093/ 9480682893. e-Mail: eem3rpcl@gmail.com**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**Conversion of Partnership Firm into Company**

1. Notice is hereby given that in pursuance of sub-section (2) of section 366 of the Companies Act, 2013, an application has been made to the Registrar at Bengaluru Karnataka, that M/S "I-MAX" a partnership firm may be registered under Part I of Chapter XXI of the Companies Act 2013, as a company limited by shares.

2. The principle objects of the company are as follows: Manufacturing and trading in Auxiliary switches, coils etc.

3. A copy of the draft memorandum and articles of association of the proposed company (I-MAX Innovation Private Limited) may be inspected at the office at No.82/1 (Old No 83) 2nd and 3rd Floor, Padma Plaza, Basavanagudi, Bengaluru -560004.

4. Notice is hereby given that any person objecting to this application may communicate their objection in writing to The Registrar of Companies (ROC), Bengaluru Karnataka, and to the Central Registration Centre (CRC), Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (IICA),Plot No. 6, 7, 8, Sector 5, IMT Manesar , District Gurgaon (Haryana), Pin Code-122050 within 21 Days (twenty one) from the date of publication of this notice, with a copy to the company at its registered office.

**Dated this 20th day of August 2022**

**Name of the Applicants**

**1. Bhagya Anand 2. N. Anand**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

My client proposes to purchase the property more particularly described in the schedule hereunder from its present owner **Mr. B D Jain @ Mr Bhagwan Das Jain,** aged about 72 years, son of Late Sri. R C Jain, residing at No.D 702, 24K Glitterati, New DP Road, Vishal Nagar, Pimple Nilakh, Pune Aundh Camp, Pune, Maharashtra India 411 027. It is represented by the present owner that he has clear and marketable title to the Schedule Property.

Any person/persons who claims any right, title or interest of any nature or any lien, charge or enforceable right in relation to the Schedule Property and/or has any objections of any nature to the transaction should lodge such claim and/or objections in writing to the undersigned together with supporting documents within SEVEN (7) days hereof, failing which it will presumed that no valid claims or objections subsist and my clients would proceed to complete the transaction with the present owner thereof subject to compliance with other statutory and legal formalities.

**SCHEDULE PROPERTY**

All that piece and parcel of Site No.084 in the layout developed by the HMT Employees Building Society Limited, on several survey numbers of Nagasandra & Nelekadhirenahalli Villages, Yeshwanthapura, Bangalore North Taluk measuring East to West 80 feet, North to South 50 feet, totally measuring an extent of about 4000 sq.ft and bounded on the: East by: Site Nos.139 & 138, West by: Road North by: Site No.83, South by: Site No.85

**Sd/-Arvind Raghavan,**
**Advocate No. 48, ISHITHA 2nd Main Road, Vyalikaval, Bangalore-560003**
**Mob: 9845004419**
Place: Bangalore Dated: 21.08.2022

**KARNATAKA POWER CORPORATION LIMITED**

(MAHATMA GANDHI HYDRO ELECTRIC WORKS)

CIN: U85110KA1970SGC001919

**e-TENDER NOTIFICATION-CORRIGENDUM-1**

Please refer our Tender No. **KPCL/2022-23/PS/WORK_INDENT 12692 Date: 01.08.2022** published in this daily on 06.08.2022. Name of the work: **Modernization/ Overhauling of OPU governing systems and pressure manifold blocks of Units at MGHE.** Revised dates are: Last date & time for receipt of tenders: **29.08.2022 at 17.30 Hrs.** Opening of Technical Bid: **01.09.2022 at 10.30 Hrs.** Opening of Financial Bid: **03.09.2022 at 10.30 Hrs.** All other terms and conditions of this e-Tender Notification will remain same. Corrigendum will be available in e-Procurement Portal. Further details can be had from the office of the **Executive Engineer (MM),** MGHE, Jogfalls-577435, Sagar-Tq., Shivamogga-Dist. Mobile: +91 94495 98856. e-mail: eemmghe@gmail.com

**GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA**
**ZILLA PANCHAYATH, BELLARY**

**Office of the Executive Engineer, P.R.E. Division, Bellary.**

No. EE/PRED/BLY/AE-1/Rurban/TDR/2022-23/717 Dt. 19-08-2022.

**Tender Notification (Through E-portal only)**

On behalf of Hon'ble Governor of Karnataka tenders are invited from the eligible contractors who have enrolled in Panchayath Raj Engineering Department for 01 work comprising of appeoved building work under Rurban scheme through e-procurement portal. Contractors are required to submit the tender before 07-09-2022 at 4.00 PM by uploading the relevant documents through e-procurement portal website www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in/e-portal/index.seam by downloading the formats for submission of tenders from 22-08-2022 to 07-09-2022 at 4.00 PM. Tenders will be opened through e-proc portal on 08-09-2022 at 5.00 PM. Any changes in the notification will be published in e-procurement website only. Accepting/rejection of tenders without assigning reason is reserved. Any details can be obtained in person at the office or through telephone No. 08392-266173.

**Sd/- Executive Engineer, P.R.E Division, Ballari.**
DIPR/Ballari/375/MCA/2022-23

**Indian Overseas Bank**

HSR Layout Branch, 19/A, I Floor, 9th Main Road, Sector 7, HSR Layout, Bangalore - 560102. Ph.: 080-22950155, Email: iob2456@iob.in

**RELOCATION OF BRANCH**

This is to inform that our **"HSR LAYOUT"** Branch will be relocating from #19/A, 1st Floor, 9th Main Road, Sector 7, HSR Layout, Bangalore - 560102 to new building and will commence functioning from **12.09.2022** in the following address.

**New Address: No. 1127, 9th Main, 17th Cross, 7th Sector, HSR Layout, Bangalore-560102** (Exactly opposite building of our existing branch premises).

Date : 20th August, 2022 **Sd/-**
Place : Bengaluru **Manager**

**KARNATAKA HOUSING BOARD**

3rd Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, Bengaluru - 560009

Notification No. KHB/CE/BCWD/Hostel/AEF/90/2022-23/CALL-2 Dated 20.08.2022

**SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION (THROUGH E-PROCUREMENT PORTAL)**

Karnataka Housing Board has invited tenders through e-procurement for Appointment of Architectural Engineering Firm (AEF) for the work of Construction of Post Metric Girls Hostel (Unit-3) K.R.Pet Town, Mandya District, Post Metric Medical and Engineering Hostel at Mysuru, Mysuru District & Post Metric Girls Hostel at Madikere Town-2, Kodagu District. Last date for submission of bid is on **01.09.2022 upto 4.00 PM.**

For further information contact above mentioned office address & following website: **https://erpoc.karnataka.gov.in**

**Sd/- Executive Engineer,**
DIPR/CP\Advt/1896/2022-23 Karnataka Housing Board, Bengaluru

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿಗಳ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ
ಶ್ರೀ ಮಲ್ಲೆ ಮಹದೇಶ್ವರಸ್ವಾಮಿ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರ,
ಮಹದೇಶ್ವರಬೆಟ್ಟ, ಕೊಳ್ಳೇಗಾಲ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು, ಚಾಮರಾಜನಗರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ
ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 08225-272128 Email : sec.mmtemple@gmail.com

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಶ್ರೀ ಮ.ಮಾ.ಕ್ಷೇ.ಅ.ಪ್ರಾ/ಟೆಂಡರ್/07/2022-23 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 12-08-2022

ಇ-ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ (ದ್ವಿ ಲಕೋಟೆ ಪದ್ಧತಿ)

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಮಾತ್ರ

| ಕ್ರ. ಸಂ. | ಟೆಂಡರ್ ವಿವರ | ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ (ರೂ. ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ) | ಇಎಂಡಿ ಮೊತ್ತ (ರೂಗಳಲ್ಲಿ) |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | ಶ್ರೀ ಮಲ್ಲೆ ಮಹದೇಶ್ವರಸ್ವಾಮಿ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರದ ಲಾಡು ವಿಭಾಗಕ್ಕೆ ಬೇಕಾದ ಸಕ್ಕರೆಯನ್ನು ಸರಬರಾಜು ಆದೇಶ ನೀಡಿದ ದಿನಾಂಕದಿಂದ ಒಂದು ವರ್ಷದ ಅವಧಿಗೆ ಸರಬರಾಜು ಮಾಡುವುದು. | 97.50 | 97,500.00 |

ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಡೌನ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳಬಹುದು ಮತ್ತು ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗೆ ಕಛೇರಿಯ ಅವಧಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 12-09-2022 ರಂದು ಸಂಜೆ: 4.00 ಗಂಟೆ ಒಳಗಾಗಿ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರದ ವಿಷಯ ನಿರ್ವಾಹಕರ ಮೊಬೈಲ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ 9886306737 ನ್ನು ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬಹುದು.

ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪ್ರಮಸ್ಥೆಯಡಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪೆಡ್ಯೂಲ್ ದಿನಾಂಕಗಳು ಈ ಕೆಳಗಿನಂತಿವೆ.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | ಇ-ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳು ಚಾಲ್ತಿಗೆ ಬರುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ | ದಿನಾಂಕ: 13-08-2022 | ರ ನಂತರ |
| 2. | ಗುಣಮಟ್ಟ ಮಾದರಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪೂರ್ವಭಾವಿ ಸಭೆ (Sample Tender pre bid meeting) | ದಿನಾಂಕ: 02-09-2022 | ಮಧ್ಯಾಹ್ನ 12.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ |
| 3. | ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಡೌನ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಲು ಮತ್ತು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಕಾಲ | ದಿನಾಂಕ: 13-09-2022 | ಸಂಜೆ 4.00 ಗಂಟೆವರೆಗೆ |
| 4. | ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್‌ನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಕಾಲ | ದಿನಾಂಕ: 15-09-2022 | ಬೆಳಗ್ಗೆ 11.00 ಗಂಟೆ ನಂತರ |
| 5. | ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್‌ನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಕಾಲ | ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ಪರಿಶೀಲನೆಯ ನಂತರ | |

ಸಹಿ/- ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿ,
ಶ್ರೀ ಮಲೆ ಮಹದೇಶ್ವರಸ್ವಾಮಿ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರ
ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರ, ಮಹದೇಶ್ವರಬೆಟ್ಟ

ಪ್ರಾಸಾಸಂ/ಟೆಂಡರ್:257/2022-23

**Goverment of Karnataka**
(Department of Women and Child Development)
**Child Development Project Office, Gillesugur**
E-mail id:cdpowcdgls@gmail.com Ph.No.08532-295721

No/cdpo/egg/t/e-pro/pu/2022-23 Date:20-08-2022

**Publication of e-procurement tender ::-**

**Ref: No/wcd/icds/EGG/1/2021/E-597342 Da:04-08-2022.**

Tenders are invited through e-procurement from eligible tenders for distribution of chicken eggs to 289 Anganwadi Centers under Raichur Taluk Child Development Scheme Gillesugur for the year-2022-23 completed details regarding the tender can be obtained from the e-procurement portal of E-Governance Department, Government of Karnataka http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in. A gazette notification had already been issued on date:21-07-2022.

But as per the mentioned order, Karnataka public Procurement Transparency Act 1999 and rules 2000 Government order regarding purchase without tender and draft tender document in SECTION-V QULIFICATION CRITERIA (Qualification Criteria) in S.No.3 Tender should be NECC or Karnataka co-operative poultry fedretion, registered poultry former with out third party involvement has been modified in the tender document and the order has been made as mentioned to issue the tender announcement.

Sl Details Date & Time Extended Date and time of tender 1. Last date for online submission of filled tenders through e-procurement D:22-08-2022 at 5.00 PM D:21-09-2022 at 5.00 PM 2.Technical Bid Opening Ticket Date :24-08-2022 Till: 11.00 AM hrs D:23-09-2022 Till: 11.00 AM hrs 3. Financial Bid Opening Ticket Date D: 26-08-2022 till: 11.00 AM hrs D: 27-09-2022 till: 11.00 AM hrs 4. EMD Amount Rs. 3,03,750/- Rs. 3,03,750/- For more details Child Development Project Officer Gillesugur can be contacted at Tel No: 9945254537 and **e-mail address cdpowcdgls@gmail.com.**

**Sd/-**
**Child Development Project Officer Raichur**

DIP.Raichur/259/MCA/2022-23

**Office of the Executive Engineer, Karnataka Urban Water Supply and Drainage Board, Division-Mandya**
**Tel/Fax :08232 224816**
**e mail- kwbeemnd@gmail.com**
**KARNATAKA URBAN WATER SUPPLY AND DRAINAGE BOARD**

**SHORT TENDER NOTIFICATION – 5th CALL**

**No:KWB/EE/MND/TEC/TA/AE/818/2022-23**
**Date:19-08-2022**

Item-rate Tender for the following work is invited through e-Procurement from eligible Agency/Contractors as detailed below:

Sl No. : 01, Name and description of work : **No. KUWSDB/2021-22/WS/WORK_INDENT3124/CALL_5.** Providing and laying of 610mm dia MS feeder line from welcome board of Mandya city to APMC market at Kalahalli in Mandya city, under 15th finance of CMC, Mandya for the year 2021-22. **Amount Put to tender: Rs.82,89,592/-.** For further details, under signed office may please be contacted or website **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** or e-Procurement helpdesk **080-46010000/080-68948777**, email support: **support@eprochelpdesk.com**

**Sd/-Executive Engineer,**
**KUWS & D Board, Division, Mandya**

DIPR/AD-MDY/MC&A/268/2022-23

FROM PAGE ONE

## 21 killed in Himachal Pradesh rain havoc

The government machinery has been deployed so that there is no disruption in providing basic amenities in the affected areas of Himachal Pradesh. Chief Secretary R.D. Dhiman issued directions to all the districts to close the educational institutions in the affected areas and to open camps in schools and community centres to provide shelter to the affected people.

The Himachal Pradesh Department of Tourism and Civil Aviation has advised tourists to travel safely. Amit Kashyap, Director (Tourism), said tourists were advised not to go near rivers and hill sides. They must also collect prior information about the condition of roads before travelling.

In Uttarkhand, the Chief Minister said the administration and SDRF teams had been deployed for relief and rescue work. "The State government is also in touch with the Army," he said.

Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Dhanolti, Lakshmi Raj Chauhan, said the Rishikesh-Badrinath highway was blocked at Totaghati and the Rishikesh-Gangotri highway at Nagni was blocked at several points due to debris.

Meanwhile, the yatra to the Mata Vaishno Devi shrine atop Trikuta hills in Reasi district, Jammu and Kashmir, resumed on Saturday after remaining temporarily suspended overnight following heavy rain.

*(With PTI inputs)*

## 'Raid is part of BJP script to stall Kejriwal's rise'

"The excise policy they are talking about is perhaps the most transparent and effective excise policy of the country; it was implemented with 100% accountability and honesty," Mr. Sisodia said.

"The Delhi government would have earned an annual revenue of ₹10,000 crore had the L-G not intervened and sabotaged it 48 hours before its implementation. The BJP has a problem with CM Kejriwal, not corruption; the whole country wants to give Kejriwal a chance in 2024, so the BJP is trying to defame him by putting his Education and Health Ministers in jail," he further said.

The Deputy Chief Minister alleged that the BJP was deliberately targeting the Health and Education Ministers of the Delhi government because these sectors were getting glory across the globe.

Mr. Kejriwal said he and Mr. Sisodia would visit Gujarat on Monday where they would pitch the 'Delhi Model' revolving around education and health to voters, and would especially converse with the State's youth.

Continuing with the relentless attack on Mr. Sisodia and the AAP Delhi government, Union Minister Anurag Thakur, displaying a printout, said it was possible that he had also changed his name to "Moneyshh" Sisodia now.

## Mumbai alert over text from Pakistan phone

Mr. Phansalkar said that after receiving the messages, the Maharashtra State Anti-Terrorism Squad and the city police personnel were put on alert. "

We are monitoring coastal security and are coordinating with the Coast Guard," he added. "*Sagar Kavach* operation has been launched and coastal security beefed up."

A city police official said earlier in the day that the text messages were received on the WhatsApp number of the Mumbai traffic police's helpline. One of the messages said six persons would execute a 26/11-like attack, while another message mentioned that preparations were on to blow up Mumbai, which would revive memories of the November 26, 2011, attacks when 12 co-ordinated terror attacks rocked the city of Mumbai and resulted in the death of almost 175 people.

Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis said the threat messages would be treated very seriously.

On Friday, the Maharashtra ATS registered a case against unknown persons after the abandoned speedboat with three AK-47 rifles and live rounds was found off the coastal in Raigad district. Mr. Fadnavis said that according to preliminary information, there was no terror angle to the boat case.

## Apollo gets clean chit on Jayalalithaa treatment

They had arrived at the final diagnosis of bacteremia (bacterial infection in the blood) and septic shock (caused by widespread infection leading to organ failure and low blood pressure) with respiratory infection.

There was also infective endocarditis (inflammation of the inner lining of heart/valves) of the mitral valve with mitral regurgitation (caused by malfunction of the valve on the left side of the heart ) and first degree AV block (where the electrical impulse that controls the heart beat is blocked completely). There was also evidence of heart failure. Besides this, the hospital's summary said there was uncontrolled diabetes at admission that was treated.

The report said the AIIMS medical panel agreed with the final diagnosis. The members of the panel, led by Sandeep Seth, professor of cardiology, were Anant Mohan, head of pulmonary medicine; Vimi Rewari, professor of anaesthesiology; Milind Hote, professor of cardiothoracic vascular surgery; Rajesh Kadgawat, professor of endocrinology; Abhishek Yadav, additional professor in the department of forensic medicine; and Ananth Naveen K. Reddy of the department of hospital administration.

The Tamil Nadu government appointed an inquiry commission headed by retired Madras High Court judge A. Arumughaswamy on September 25, 2017. The appointment of a commission of inquiry was among the preconditions placed by former Chief Minister O. Panneerselvam to reintegrate his unit with the AIADMK faction headed by Edappadi K. Palaniswami. The commission was then tasked with examining the circumstances that led to the hospitalisation of Jayalalithaa and the treatment given so as to arrive at the cause of death.

Following this, Apollo Hospitals filed a petition in the Supreme Court to quash the commission.

# Himachal prone to natural disasters, says study

### Latest State of Environment report shows the hill State is vulnerable to 25 out of 33 identified types of hazards

VIKAS VASUDEVA
CHANDIGARH

As Himachal Pradesh experiences nature's fury in the form of landslips, cloudbursts, flash floods, avalanches and droughts year after year, natural hazards have become a matter of immediate concern, the hilly region's latest State of Environment report shows.

The report, released by the Department of Environment, Science and Technology, points out that mountain areas are highly vulnerable to natural disasters, where development over the years has compounded the problem by upsetting the ecological balance of various physical processes. "The increased pressure on the mountain environment has contributed in some measure to environmental problems such as landslips, land subsidence, removal of vegetation and soil erosion. According to one estimate, about 58.36% of the land is subjected to intense soil erosion, much of which is located in the Himalayas, and Himachal Pradesh, which forms part of the western Himalayas, is environmentally fragile and ecologically vulnerable," the report says.

**Nature's fury:** Roads were washed away after heavy rain in Shimla, and tourists remained stranded in the hill town on Saturday. • PTI

**Fragile ecology**

It adds, "The fragile ecology of the mountain State [Himachal Pradesh] coupled with large variations in physio-climatic conditions has rendered it vulnerable to the vagaries of nature. The incidence of cloudbursts in the last few years has been unprecedented. Notwithstanding the continuous efforts made by the government to cope with natural hazards through relief and rehabilitation measures, landslides and snow avalanches continue to inflict widespread harm and damage to human life as well as property. The roads that are the State's lifeline are repeatedly damaged, blocked or washed away by one or other acts of nature. In the circumstances, the Government has to divert the already scarce resources of the state for relief and rehabilitation measures."

Himachal Pradesh is vulnerable to 25 out of 33 types of hazards identified by the Government of India. Moreover, the State is also confronting the emerging threats of climate change, and human-wildlife conflict.

The report says an attempt was made to develop a vulnerability matrix for the State as a whole. The overall vulnerability of the State on the basis of the matrix clearly suggests that the districts of Chamba, Kinnaur and Kullu, and parts of Kangra and Shimla, fall in the "very high" vulnerable risk status. Similarly, the districts of Kangra, Mandi, Una, Shimla, and Lahaul and Spiti, fall in "high" vulnerable risk status. The districts of Hamirpur, Bilaspur, Solan and Sirmour fall in the "moderate" vulnerable risk status.

The report says qualitative weightage was given on a scale of 0-5 for different hazards such as earthquakes, landslips, avalanches, industrial hazards, construction type, and density of population. A district-wise matrix was prepared by evaluating the risk severity.

The evaluation also gave weightage to the density of the population likely to be affected. The matrix includes the evaluation of hazards likely to be induced on account of development works such as hydel projects, roads, and industries.

According to the report, in case of earthquake vulnerability, the devised matrix shows the districts of Kangra, Hamirpur and Mandi fall in the "very high" vulnerability category.

**Shimla high vulnerable**

The districts which fall in the "high" earthquake vulnerability category are Chamba, Kullu Kinnaur, and a part of the Kangra and Shimla districts, whereas the "moderate" and "low" vulnerable districts are Una, Bilaspur, Sirmour and Solan, Shimla, and Lahaul-Spiti, respectively.

The landslip vulnerability in the case of Chamba, Kullu, Kinnaur, and parts of Kangra and Shimla districts is 'high', followed by Kangra, Mandi, Bilaspur, Shimla, Sirmour, and Lahaul-Spiti districts falling in the 'moderate' category. The areas falling in the 'low' vulnerable category are the districts of Una, Hamirpur, and Solan.

The avalanche hazard vulnerability map suggests that the districts of Lahaul-Spiti and Kinnaur are in the 'very high' vulnerability status, followed by Chamba, Kullu, and part of Kangra and Shimla as 'moderate' vulnerable areas.

The flood hazard vulnerability map indicates that the areas in the districts of Chamba, Kullu Una, and Kinnaur fall in the "high" vulnerable category, whereas the Lahaul-Spiti, Mandi, Shimla, Kangra, Hamirpur, Bilaspur, Solan, and Sirmour districts fall in 'moderate' and 'low' vulnerability areas.

## India understands our situation: Sri Lanka

### Minister speak of good relationship

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
AHMEDABAD

Amid concerns over a visit by Chinese ship *Yuan Wang 5* to his country, Sri Lankan Tourism Minister Harin Fernando said here on Saturday that he hoped it would not cause a major diplomatic row as India understood the situation.

In Ahmedabad to promote tourism in the island nation, Mr. Fernando said China had made a lot of investment in Sri Lanka and had been "understanding its requirements in the past". Indian authorities have expressed worries about the ship's snooping capability.

"I am sure India understands that. We have a very good diplomatic relationship with India," the Minister said, replying to a question.

Indian authorities consider the vessel to be a "dual-use spy ship".

Mr. Fernando said Sri Lanka's President Ranil Wickremesinghe and its Foreign Minister were in constant touch with Minister of External Affairs S. Jaishankar and Prime Minister Narendra Modi. "I think they understand our situation," he said. "There is a lot of investment by the Chinese in Sri Lanka and they have also been quite understanding of our requirements in the past. So I am quite hopeful this is not a major diplomatic issue," he further said.

## Govt. maintaining vigil on China ship: Minister

### National security is our priority, says Muraleedharan

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
TIRUCHI

Union Minister of State for External Affairs and Parliamentary Affairs V. Muraleedharan on Saturday said the Centre was closely watching the situation arising out of the docking of a Chinese satellite tracking vessel at the Hambantota port in Sri Lanka.

On the vessel being allowed to dock at the Sri Lankan port despite strong reservations expressed by India, he said whatever measures that needed to be taken in the interest of national security would be taken.

V. Muraleedharan

On the retrieval of Katchatheevu island from Sri Lanka, he said in a brief interaction with reporters at the Tiruchi airport that the judicial process was on at an international level. Hence, it would not be proper for him to comment on the subject.

**One nation one election**

On the chances of implementing the concept of "one nation and one election" in the country, the Minister said it was being debated. A decision would be taken at an appropriate time.

The Tamil Nadu BJP had been vehemently exposing corruption, nepotism and irregularities in the DMK government. People of the State were rallying behind the BJP. It would get maximum support from people in the future, Mr. Muraleedharan said.

## Mondal's bail plea rejected; in CBI custody

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
KOLKATA

A Special Court of the CBI on Saturday rejected the bail petition of Trinamool Congress leader Anubrata Mondal, arrested in connection with a cattle smuggling scam.

Counsel appearing for Mr. Mondal in a court sought bail on the grounds that he needed treatment at a health facility.

## Dalit woman's death: NCSC starts probe

### Last week, the commission sent notices to officials of Rajasthan government

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

The National Commission for Scheduled Castes (NCSC) on Saturday began an investigation into the incident of a 32-year-old Dalit woman, a teacher, being burned alive in Raisar village of Jaipur district by men who owed her money and had allegedly started harassing her when she asked for it.

Commission chief Vijay Sampla on Saturday visited the village where the crime took place and officially launched the NCSC's probe into the incident.

A statement from his office said that he also met with senior officials in the administration.

Mr. Sampla also met with the Divisional Commissioner, the District Deputy Commissioner and the Director-General of Police .

The police have so far arrested seven men for the killing. The men are related to her husband, who lodged the complaint after his wife's death.

In the complaint, he said that the victim, 32-year-old Anita Regar, had lent the men around ₹2 lakh. He added that the men had started harassing her when she asked for its return.

The woman was attacked on August 10 and died during treatment on August 16. On August 18, the Commission issued notice to the Rajasthan police, Jaipur police, local administration and the State government, seeking an action-taken report of the incident within seven days. The notice said that the Commission had taken *suo motu* cognisance of media reports of the incident.

Last week, the Commission sent two more notices to authorities in Rajasthan with respect to crimes or atrocities against Dalits.

IN BRIEF

### 2 dead, 7 hurt in Banke Bihari temple stampede

GHAZIABAD

Two devotees were killed and seven were injured because of overcrowding in a Mathura temple during Janmashtami celebrations on Friday night. Eyewitnesses said the incident happened in Banke Bihari Mandir in Vrindavan. Sources said the deceased were Nirmala Devi of Gautam Buddha Nagar and Ram Prasad Vishwakarma of Jabalpur in Madhya Pradesh.

### Village head beats up Dalit youth in U.P., held

LUCKNOW

A village head was arrested on Saturday for allegedly beating up a Dalit youth with footwear at Tajpur village in Muzaffarnagar. In a viral video, Shakti Mohan, the village *pradhan*, is seen beating up Dinesh Jatav. Anil Kumar, Purqazi MLA, had tweeted the video tagging U.P. police officials, demanding strict action.

### Airport to be named after Bhagat Singh

CHANDIGARH

The Punjab and Haryana governments on Saturday agreed to name the Chandigarh International Airport after freedom fighter Bhagat Singh. The decision came after Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann and Haryana Deputy Chief Minister Dushyant Chautala held a meeting over this issue. PTI

## 'Warning label most effective in identifying harmful nutrients'

### A study published in *Nutrients* journal found Health Star Rating, recommended by FSSAI, is least effective

JAGRITI CHANDRA
NEW DELHI

A new study in India has found that warning labels on food packets are most effective in helping consumers identify foods "high in sugar, saturated fat and sodium" as compared with other labelling formats.

Published in an open access journal *Nutrients* earlier this month, the study is the first peer-reviewed paper on the subject in an Indian context. It found that on most parameters, the Health Star Rating (HSR) format – where a product is assigned between half-a-star and five stars – was least effective.

**FSSAI report**

The study comes at a time the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) is expected to issue its draft regulation on front-of-package labelling (FOPL) and has indicated that it favours HSR, inviting criticism from public health experts who have accused it of favouring the food industry.

The authors conducted an in-person randomised experiment on 2,869 adults in six States in India, where participants were shown food packets with one of five FOPLs – a control label (barcode), nutrient-specific warning label (octagon symbol indicating whether the product was high in salt/sugar or saturated fat), Health Star Rating, guideline for daily amount (GDA that gives nutritional content information) or traffic light label (indicating red, amber or green levels of nutrients of concern).

The objective of the study was to evaluate the impact of different labels in helping consumers correctly identify packaged products containing excess levels of nutrients of concern such as sugar, saturate fat and sodium.

The study found that relative to a control label, most

The study aimed to evaluate the impact of different labels on consumers.

number of participants were able to identify a nutrient of concern when they were presented a packet with a warning label with 60.8% recognising harmful nutrients as compared to 55% recognising them when they were shown a GDA label, and 54.8% when shown a traffic light label.

Health Star Rating label performed the worst with only 45% being able to recognise the three nutrients of concern.

Warning label outperformed other labels even where secondary outcomes were concerned such as perceived message effectiveness, which is predictive of behavioural change, argue the authors.

It also performed best on outcomes such as identifying products as unhealthy and making users concerned about health consequences.

The GDA and MTL performed best at grabbing attention. The HSR performed worse than all other FOPL types on most secondary outcomes.

**Consumer awareness**

However, the study also found that warning labels failed to statistically significantly reduce intentions to purchase unhealthy packaged products which is why the authors suggest "the need to reinforce any FOPL policy with a robust and focused communications campaign to increase consumer awareness and understanding."

Of the participants, 50% were women with an educational level of 12 years or less. Their eligibility criteria for the study included being between the ages of 18 and 60 and being involved in decision making related to grocery purchases for their household at least half the time.

**Suitable strategy**

"In a country where there is a demographic transition taking place and there is dominance of non-communicable diseases and multiple morbidities such as diabetes, cardiovascular diseases, we need to adopt a suitable strategy based on evidence to make consumers aware of nutrients of concern. Our recommendation is for adopting warning labels," Dr. S.K. Singh, Professor and Head, Department of Survey Research and Data Analytics, International Institute for Population Sciences, and the corresponding author, told *The Hindu*.

The FSSAI is expected to bring out draft regulations recommending Health Star Rating system based on a study commissioned by the food regulator and conducted by Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad (IIM-Ahmedabad), according to the minutes of a stakeholder's meeting in February 2022.

This has led to global and Indian experts criticising the move and raising questions about the IIM-A study too, calling it scientifically wrong, alleging underlying bias as well as faulty interpretation as it too found warning labels more effective in reducing consumer intent to buy products with harmful nutrients yet recommended Health Star Rating.

INTERVIEW | CHIRAG PASWAN

# 'Political equations will change ... Bihar will have mid-term Assembly polls'

## The day Tejashwi starts asserting himself, Nitish Kumar will not like it and will start feeling humiliated, suffocated, says LJP (Ramvilas) president

NISTULA HEBBAR
SOBHANA K. NAIR
NEW DELHI

*Days after Janata Dal(U) leader Nitish Kumar returned to the Bihar Chief Minister's chair for the eighth time – this time forming a government in alliance with the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) – Lok Janshakti Party (Ramvilas) president* **Chirag Paswan** *counters speculation over his return to the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) and offers his political predictions for the State.*

**In 2020, you walked out of the BJP-led NDA, primarily opposing Chief Minister and JD(U) leader Nitish Kumar. Now that he is out of the NDA, will you return to it [the NDA]?**

■ Of course not! The reason for leaving NDA was not the person, Nitish Kumar – it was his ideology and his working style. He has been Bihar's Chief Minister for nearly two decades but his much-touted agenda of *saat nishchey* or 'seven promises' is just about providing basic necessities to the State, which the government is anyway obliged to do.

Unfortunately, in Bihar, the government may change but the Chief Minister remains the same. Everytime he [Mr. Kumar] resigns, he returns to the chair with a different Deputy Chief Minister.

**But what about the BJP? Are you ready to work with it, considering you declared yourself to be Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 'Hanuman'?**

■ I will always have an emotional connection with Modi-*ji* because when my father was unwell, he stood by me. He would call me twice a day to enquire about his health and our well-being.

But let me clear the air about the 'Hanuman' comment. During the campaign for the Bihar 2020 election, some JD(U) leaders started complaining that I was using the PM's photographs, though I was out of the NDA – to which I said that I do not need to put up his photographs because he's there in my heart. That was the root of the 'Hanuman' label.

**But, politically, what stops you from cosying up to the BJP?**

**Irrespective of its electoral strength, the BJP genuflects in front of Nitish Kumar and offers him the Chief Minister's chair on a platter**

■ Because the BJP does not have a vision for my State. All these years, they have worked as a subservient partner to the JD(U) in Bihar.

Irrespective of their electoral strength in the Cabinet, they genuflect in front of Nitish Kumar and offer him the Chief Minister's chair on a platter. Why? Because the BJP in the State has no leadership and no vision!

**Given the circumstances under which the LJP split – the way in which you had to vacate the bungalow on 12 Janpath, where your family had lived for three decades; and accommodating your uncle Pashupati Nath Paras but not you in the Union Cabinet – are you feeling bitter about the BJP?**

■ I am not bitter about the BJP. But I won't say that I have a capacious heart, and that I can forget and forgive everything.

Of course, it hurt when these events happened. If they had wanted, they could have handled it in a better manner, which was not done.

**How do you reconcile your devotion to Mr. Modi with his remarks against nepotism and dynastic politics in his Independence Day address?**

■ I believe that the people of the country are the final arbitrators – if you have the potential, they will accept you, or you will be rejected. My birth is my fortune, but it alone won't dictate my fate. People like me have a different struggle. I don't have to compete with anyone else but my father. I will always be appraised against Ram Vilas Paswan. They say Ram Vilas-*ji* was an affable person, but Chirag is arrogant. That he was accessible, and I am hard to reach. Every day, you have to fight your father's shadow to prove yourself.

**You claim that you will not ally with the BJP. So, are you going to contest the next round of Assembly and Lok Sabha elections alone?**

■ No. My party will be contesting the elections in an alliance, but we shall cross the bridge when we come to it. I am the son of the *'mausam vigyanik'* [Ram Vilas Paswan was referred to as the weathervane of Indian politics], so I can foresee a few things (laughs)]. To be able to predict the future, one must look at the past. In the last eight years, the Chief Minister [Nitish Kumar] has thrice changed his alliances and therefore, I do not see the present one surviving for long.

I won't be surprised if the political equations in Bihar change by the 2024 Lok Sabha election. And I believe that we will soon have mid-term Assembly election in Bihar, it could happen even before the 2024 polls, or they will be held simultaneously. My predictions are based on a simple fact – my younger brother, [Deputy CM] Tejashwi [Yadav], needs just two more seats in the Bihar Assembly to be the Chief Minister. The day he [Mr. Yadav] starts asserting himself, the Chief Minister [Mr. Kumar] will not like it. He [Mr. Kumar] will start feeling 'humiliated', 'suffocated', and so on. These symptoms are going to return very soon.

# People more aware, approach courts to settle disputes: Rijiju

## 'Govt. is tapping technology to reduce pendency in courts'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

As the number of pending cases in courts nears five crore, Law Minister Kiren Rijiju on Saturday said if a judge disposes of 50 cases, 100 new petitions are filed as people are more aware now and approach courts to settle disputes.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said the government is committed to making the Armed Forces Tribunal (AFT) more empowered and responsive and implement measures that were required in this direction.

Kiren Rijiju

Addressing a seminar titled "Introspection: armed forces tribunal" organised by the Armed Forces Tribunal Principal Bench Bar Association on Saturday, Mr. Singh said that domain-specific tribunals were set up to deal with diverse cases and clear pending cases. "Judiciary is a strong pillar of democracy, and judicial officers, and lawyers are in turn pillars of this judicial system. People knock on the doors of the judiciary when all other options were closed to them and sound Judiciary delivery systems were the basis for good governance," he stated.

Stating that over 4.83 crore cases are pending in courts across the country, Mr. Rijiju said the government is tapping technology to reduce pendency in courts. While over four crore cases are pending in lower courts, the Supreme Court has over 72,000 pending cases.

*(With inputs from PTI)*

# Congress calls for White Paper on privatisation of public banks

## RBI has gone back on its report under pressure from BJP and Centre, party says

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Narendra Modi government and the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) forced the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to go back on its report that cautioned against adopting a "big bang approach" to bank privatisation, the Congress alleged on Saturday and demanded a White Paper on the privatisation of public sector banks.

Addressing a press conference, Congress spokesperson Supriya Shrinate alleged that the BJP had reduced the RBI to the "Reverse Bank of India" by forcing a U-turn, and the party itself had become a "*Beche Jao* Party [Keep selling party]".

**The government put such pressure that the RBI within 24 hours had to disown its own research report by stating the views in the report are not ours but of the researcher**
SUPRIYA SHRINATE, Congress spokesperson

The RBI on Friday said the views expressed in the research paper, published in its official bulletin, were not of the central bank but that of the authors.

"The government put such pressure that the RBI within 24 hours had to disown its own research report by stating the views in the report 'is not ours but of the researcher'. What a strange thing! The researcher is from RBI but not the report," Ms. Shrinate said.

Ms. Shrinate said it was a pity that the RBI, which had once hailed the nationalisation of 14 banks as the single-most important economic decision taken by any government since 1947, was today forced to disown its researchers' report praising public sector banks and their efficiency.

She said the Modi government had already reduced 27 public sector banks to 12 and now planned to privatise more banks.

The Congress spokesperson said that the study by the RBI's research unit had red-flagged the consequences of bank privatisation and highlighted how the cornerstone of the government's policies had to be public good and so the standard of efficiency for public sector banks could not be profits alone.

# Congress hails Rajiv Gandhi's tenure as PM

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Remembering former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi on his 78th anniversary, the Congress on Saturday said that his single term as Prime Minister will be remembered for far-reaching achievements, including laying the foundation of the telecom and Information Technology revolutions, ushering peace, and empowering youth to transform India.

Former Congress chief Rahul Gandhi and party general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra visited their father's memorial. But their mother Sonia Gandhi, who had recently contracted COVID-19 a second time, was not present.

# Tejashwi issues code of conduct for Ministers

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
PATNA

Days after Deputy Chief Minister Tejashwi Yadav courted controversy after pictures surfaced of his aide attending an official meeting in his presence, he issued a code of conduct for Ministers on Saturday.

Mr. Yadav's six-point code forbade Rashtriya Janata Dal Ministers from buying vehicles for themselves in the department and allowing party workers from touching their feet.

He requested them to be "courteous towards everyone and to greet everyone with *"namaste* and *adab*. "While dealing with the poor, the Ministers must not let their caste or religion decide the priority of the matter," the charter said.


**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, WATER RESOURCES DN. IST, AJMER**

No:- 1660-75 Date : 10/08/2022

**E-NIT No. 02/2022-23**

**Notice Inviting Bid**

Bids for 8 Nos of Works Estimated cost of Rs. 771.76 Lacs Under different Schemes (RRR 1 Work, ERM 4 Work, WHS 3 Work) are invited from interested bidders upto 6.00 PM of 06/09/2022. Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (http//eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http\\sppp.raj\nic.in) of the state and Water Resources departmental website.

UBN:- WRD2023WSOB01079, WRD2023WSOB01080, WRD2023WSOB01081, WRD2023WSOB01082, WRD2023WSOB01083, WRD2023WSOB01084, WRD2023WSOB01085, WRD2023WSOB01086

1. www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in
2. www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in
3. www.water.rajasthan.gov.in/wrd

Executive Engineer
Water Resources Dn. Ist, Ajmer
Mob. No. 9414308801

DIPR/C/10731

**SAINIK SCHOOL KORUKONDA**
An Autonomous Body under Ministry of Defence, Government of India
Dist. Vizianagaram (A.P) Pin : 535214
Phone : 08922-246150, Fax : 08922-246150
Website : www.sainikschoolkorukonda.org

**RECRUITMENT OF TGTS IN SOCIAL SCIENCE AND TELUGU ON REGULAR BASIS**

Applications are invited from eligible candidates for the following posts:-
(i) 1- TGT in Social Science (ST Category)
(ii) 1- TGT in Telugu (SC Category)

**Applications in (prescribed format) complete in all respects along with DD must reach Principal, Sainik School Korukonda on or before 12 Sep 2022. Publication of the advertisement in the daily News Paper (The Hindu & Sakshi).** School will not be responsible for postal delay. TA/DA will not be paid to the candidates shortlisted and called for written test class demonstration and interview. **The School Authority reserves the rights to CANCEL the employment process at any time.**

For details of the advertisement please log on to our school website.

Principal,
Sainik School Korukonda

**NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR EMPOWERMENT OF PERSONS WITH MULTIPLE DISABILITIES (Divyangjan)**
(Accredited by NAAC) (ISO 9001:2015 Certified- HRD & Clinical Services)
(Dept.of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan), Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Govt.of India)
Muttukadu, East Coast Road, Kovalam (P.O), Chennai - 603 112. Phone: 044 - 27472113, 27472423. Mobile: 9444314716, Toll Free No: 18004250345 Kiran Mental Health Helpline No: 1800-599-0019
www.niepmd.tn.nic.in Email: niepmd@gmail.com, niepmdhrd@gmail.com

**ADMISSION NOTICE 2022-23 (For Lateral Entry to B.P.O)**

| Program/ Course | Eligibility | No. of Seats | Admission Process | Last date for receipt of filled in application |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bachelor in Prosthetics & Orthotics | Pass in D.P.O from a RCI recognized Institute is eligible for admission directly in 3rd Year (5th Semester BPO program) | 11 Seats (General – 5 OBC – 2, EWS – 1 SC – 1, ST – 2) | Direct Admission – Merit Basis | 10th September 2022 |

For more details visit: **www.niepmd.tn.nic.in**
**Note:** 1. If no EWS candidates applied, unreserved category may be considered for admission in the seats reserved for EWS
2. For more information please contact BPO program Co-ordinator (8072267210) or write to us : niepmd@gmail.com or niepmdbpo@gmail.com

Sd/- Director, NIEPMD

**KARNATAKA STATE ROAD TRANSPORT CORPORATION**
Central Offices, Stores and Purchase Department, K.H. Road, Shanthinagar, Bengaluru-560027

**NOTICE INVITING TENDER NO 5 Dated: 20/08/2022**

Tenders (Pre-qualification and or commercial offers) through e-procurement portal **(https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in)** are invited for supply the following goods:

| Tender No. | Nomenclature of Items/ Services | Tender Value in crores Rs. (Approx) | Last date for submission of tender @17.00Hrs |
|---|---|---|---|
| G-25/22-23 | Procurement of Lubricants | 15.00 | 22/09/2022 |
| G-26/22-23 | Procurement of Grease | 7.00 | 22/09/2022 |
| G-27/22-23 | Procurement of Jumbo Thermal Roll for ETM Machines | 3.50 | 22/09/2022 |
| G-28/22-23 | Procurement of Aluminium Sockets | 0.50 | 22/09/2022 |
| G-29/22-23 | Printing and supply of Sarige Sampada magazines of KSRTC | 0.12 | 22/09/2022 |
| G-30/22-23 | Procurement of Pneumatic Door Assembly | 0.30 | 22/09/2022 |
| G-31/22-23 | Procurement of Precurred Tread Rubber allied Materials | 35.00 | 22/09/2022 |
| G-32/22-23 | Procurement of Thermocool | 0.47 | 22/09/2022 |
| G-33/22-23 | Procurement of PU Adhesive Sealant | 2.10 | 22/09/2022 |
| G-34/22-23 | Procurement of SMF Batteries for UPS | 3.00 | 22/09/2022 |
| A-08/22-23 | Procurement of Dashboard Instruments | 4.50 | 22/09/2022 |
| | **SHORT TERM TENDER** | | |
| G-35/22-23 | Supply ,Installation & commissioning of Diesel Smoke Meter with Engine RPM and Oil Temperature Gauge/Sensor on turnkey basis. | 0.40 | 05/09/2022 |
| G-36/22-23 | Procurement of Mechanical & Hydraulic jacks with Tommy Bar | 1.50 | 05/09/2022 |
| A-09/22-23 | Procurement of NRC Engine Spares | 6.00 | 05/09/2022 |
| A-10/22-23 | Procurement of NRC Chassis Spares | 2.00 | 05/09/2022 |

Further any addendum / corrigendum in respect of change in calendar of events, specification, scope, other tender terms and conditions etc, will be uploaded / published through e-portal only. **NOTE:-** Interested suppliers need to register in the e-procurement portal. For further information log into **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in**. In case of further assistance, contact e-procurement cell **(Phone No. 0802230960, 080–22234115)**. Interested suppliers may also contact e-procurement cell for training on bid submission. Mail to **eprocurementhelpdesk@gmail.com** for further information if required. In case of bidders need assistance from KSRTC, can communicate at **cosp@ksrtc.org, (contact: 7760990225,7760990224)**

Sd/-, CONTROLLER OF STORES & PURCHASES
(Tender Inviting Authority)

DIPR/CP/LC/1882/2022-23

STAY PROTECTED FROM COVID-19, NO CARELESSNESS UNTIL THERE IS A CURE.
Wear Mask | 6 Feet Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene

**TIRUMALA TIRUPATI DEVASTHANAMS : TIRUPATI**
Office of the Chief Engineer
**E-procurement tender notice**

Adv.No.29/03/CE/TTD/2022.23 & NIT No.237/SE-II/TTD/2022-23
**Name of the Work:** Operation and maintenance of Dams, Pumps, Pump Stations, Pumping lines, Main Filter House & Kasavanandapan filter plant, Fountains and Sewage treatment plants at Tirumala, Kalyani pumping scheme, pipe lines in Footpaths (both Srivari Mettu and Alipiri) and SV Poor home at Tirupati (Both Civil & Elec) for the period of 2022-2024(Two years). **Open Tender Type and Time for Completion: 24 months.** Schedule **download start date:20-08-2022 (5.00 p.m.); Download end date:05-09-2022 (up to 1.00 p.m. and Last Date for bid submission: 05-09-2022 (up to 3.00 p.m.)** NOTE: For full details log on to the website **https://tender.apeprocurement.gov.in.** or **http://www.apeprocurement.gov.in.**

Roc.No.PRO/13945/Adv.No.185/PRO/2022, Dated:20-08-2022 EXECUTIVE OFFICER

**KARNATAKA POWER CORPORATION LIMITED**
MAHATHMA GANDHI HYDRO ELECTRIC POWER HOUSE
CIN : U85110KA1970SGC001919

No.: KPCL/2022-23/PS/WORK_INDENT12494 /CALL-2 Date: 19.08.2022

**ABSTRACT "e" TENDER NOTIFICATION**
(Through e-procurement portal only)

Bids in two covers are invited through e-Procurement Portal **Website: URL:https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** for the work of **Design, Fabrication, Supply, Testing, Installation & Commissioning of one set of slip ring each for 1st and 2nd stage Generators each at MGHE power house,** from regular manufacturer/supplier/firm/agency and shall have proven experience in the field of repair and rectification of slip rings to power utilities as specified in the Pre-Qualifying Requirement in "e" tender notification. Last Date & Time for on-line submission of tenders: **02.09.2022 upto 16:00Hrs.** Opening the Technical Bid: **03.09.2022 at 16:30 Hrs.** and Opening the Financial Bid: **05.09.2022 at 16:45 Hrs.** Further information if required can be obtained from office of the **Executive Engineer (EM&O), MGHE Works, KPCL, Jog Falls-577 436, Sagar - Taluk, Shimoga - District, Karnataka.** Mobile No.: **94495 98853.**

**OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER (PPP) P.W.D., RAJASTHAN, JAIPUR**

No. 922 Date: 18/8/22

**SHORT TERM NIT No. 22/2022-23**

**INVITATION OF RFP FOR TOLL COLLECTION**

On behalf of Hon'ble Governor of Rajasthan, Public Works Department, Rajasthan invites RFP for Toll Collection for ADB funded Highways **Kanwas-Khanpur-Aklera Section of SH-74, Deoli-Kanwas Section of SH-74A, Alot(MP)-Gangdhar-Suwansara(MP) Section of SH-19C and Kherli-Pahari Section of SH-22 in the State of Rajasthan** under RSHIP Tranche-1 Package-01 in specified format.

The RFP document can be viewed or / and downloaded from website: **https://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in, www.pwd.rajasthan.gov.in** and **https://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in** from 18.08.2022. Any further amendments to the RFP document shall only be made available on above websites as such prospective Bidders are advised to visit the above websites for the same.

**UBN No: PWD2223SLOB06066**

(Dinesh Kumar Agarwal)
Addl. Chief Engineer (PPP)
PWD, Rajasthan, Jaipur

Email: aceppp.pwd@rajasthan.gov.in
Tel: +91-141-2223547

DIPR/C/10830

**REGIONAL CENTRE FOR BIOTECHNOLOGY**
**DEPARTMENT OF BIOTECHNOLOGY**
**MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY, GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**

**DBT - BIOTECH INDUSTRIAL TRAINING PROGRAMME (BITP) UNDER DBT-SKILL VIGYAN**

**Call for Training Requisitions from Companies 2022-2023**

BITP is a scheme for imparting practical industrial training for B.E. / B.Tech. / M.Sc. / M.Tech. / M.V.Sc. / MBA Biotechnology and Bioinformatics graduates. The programme provides an opportunity for students who have completed their education and intend to start their career in the industry to acquire practical skills and experience working on projects alongside industry experts as well as an opportunity for the industry to identify potential candidates for their human resource requirements. The training will be for six months period during which stipend will be paid to trainees and a bench fee shall be provided to trainer companies to cover expenses towards training.

**Mode of Application:** Requisitions are invited from companies operating in the areas of Drugs & Pharmaceuticals, Diagnostics, Agri-biotechnology, Biomedical, Environmental, Industrial Biotechnology, Therapeutics, Genomics & Proteomics, Veterinary, Bio-services, Bioinformatics & Computational Biology, Contract Research & Manufacturing, Intellectual Property, etc. to provide hands-on training for six months to biotechnology & bioinformatics candidates.

**"Requisition Forms"** can be downloaded from RCB website (**www.rcb.res.in**). Companies also need to register on the apprenticeship India portal (**www.apprenticeshipindia.org**). Duly filled and signed 'Requisition Forms' shall be submitted to **bitp.dbt@rcb.res.in**.

Trainer companies can take a maximum of 15% apprentices of their total employee strength, as per apprenticeship norms.

Trainees shall be selected on their performance in BITP 2022 examination. Trainees will be allotted company based on their expertise and choice of training location.

**Mode of Selection:** Selection of companies will be based on the evaluation of the facilities which can be provided to the trainees by the company, job roles available, company expertise, trainees/apprentices requirements etc.

**Stipend and Bench Fee structure:**

1. The bench fee shall be provided to trainer companies to cover the expenses towards training. Bench fee to trainer companies will be disbursed by DBT @ **Rs. 23,350/-** per candidate. The payment shall be made upon completion of training programme.
2. Trainer companies are required to pay a minimum stipend of **Rs. 9,000/-** per month to each trainee for the period of training, as per apprenticeship norms.
3. DBT will disburse a stipend @ **Rs. 10,000/-** per candidate per month. The stipend will be disbursed to trainees on completion of six months of training and successful completion of the assessment test. Apprentices who qualify the **"Assessment"** will be awarded **"Apprenticeship Certificate"** under National Skill Qualification Framework (NSQF) by the Sector Skill Council.

**IMPORTANT DATES:**

Start date for submission of requisition form : 22nd August 2022
Closing date for submission of requisition form : 22nd September 2022

**Note:** In case of any query, please send email to **bitp.dbt@rcb.res.in**

# *Maker of pandemic's 'magic pill' faces income tax searches and PIL petition*

## CBDT has accused Dolo-maker of distributing freebies to doctors to promote its product; association of medical representatives alleges unethical marketing

BINDU SHAJAN PERAPPADAN
NEW DELHI

Called "the favourite snack" during the pandemic and a source of multiple social media memes, Dolo-650 mg, which registered sales of over ₹500 crore since the start of the pandemic in India in March 2020, is now in the news over a public interest litigation petition in the Supreme Court and income tax searches on its maker, Micro Labs.

In its petition, the Federation of Medical and Sales Representatives Association of India, a national-level trade union, alleged mounting instances of unethical marketing practices by pharma companies in their dealings (mainly the offer of freebies) with healthcare professionals, which, in turn, has a negative effect on the health of those who are already unwell. The federation has sought enforcement of the right to life under Article 21 of the Constitution.

The Central Board of Direct Taxes, the administrative body for the Income Tax Department, in July accused Micro Labs of indulging in "unethical practices" and distributing freebies estimated at about ₹1,000 crore to doctors and medical professionals for promoting its products. The Income Tax Department searched 36 premises of the firm across nine States on July 6.

"The existing code is voluntary and unethical practices will continue to proliferate. The ultimate sufferer is the ailing patient for whom we are fighting. We demand that all essential medicines be brought under price control and made tax-free. This will ensure that patients are directly benefited. No one should die for want of medicines," Santanu Chatterjee of the federation says.

**Under watch:** Income Tax department recently searched 36 premises of the Bengaluru-based Micro Labs Ltd. across nine states. •PTI

"This current case is certainly not about Dolo-650 alone. It is just one of the examples cited. Paracetamol is one of the examples that we have referred to in the petition that was filed some years ago. We are working for bringing in regulations that would stop malpractice in the pharma industry," Aparna Bhat, advocate for the federation, says.

She says that government price control is applicable till 500 mg of the paracetamol salt. "The idea of Dolo-650 and freebies caught on because it is so widely used especially during COVID," she adds.

Data available with IQVIA, a healthcare research firm, show that Dolo-650 mg registered sales of ₹28.9 crore in December 2021, up 61.45% from the corresponding month the previous year. Its highest sales figures are from April and May in 2021, when it registered sales of ₹48.9 crore and ₹44.2 crore, respectively. This growth was when the country was witnessing the second wave of COVID-19.

Dolo-650 is one brand of paracetamol, also known as acetaminophen, and used to treat fever and mild to moderate pain. It is no different from brands such as Crocin and Calpol. However, unlike Dolo-650 mg, most other brands sell their paracetamol brand in 500-mg tablets.

SPECIAL

Data from IQVIA show that Dolo-650 and Calpol (manufactured by GSK Pharmaceuticals) are the key brands driving the paracetamol segment. In all, there are over 30 brands of paracetamol that are top-sellers in different regions of India.

While the Supreme Court is now scheduled to take up the matter on September 29, earlier this month, the National Medical Commission sought details from the Income Tax Department of doctors who allegedly received freebies from six pharma companies, including Micro Labs.

### Safe drug

A recent study by Future Market Insights (FMI) notes that the global acetaminophen market is expected to grow to over $14.1 billion by 2031 from the $9.4 billion in 2021.

In such a market, Dolo-650's popularity comes with the fact that it is one of three or four familiar brands that contain the drug paracetamol, what with Dolo having been around for almost three decades, says Rajeev Jayadevan, co-chairman (national), Indian Medical Association COVID task force.

"A specific advantage of Dolo 650 is that if a single tablet is taken up to three times a day, it comes well under the safe limit of 4 g every 24 hours. More number of pills might be needed if the 500-mg tablet is used. So it is convenient for adults of average build and weight. I understand other leading brands also released ads about their own 650-mg versions, apparently after seeing the popularity of this particular dose during the pandemic," he says.

Paracetamol is considered a safe drug to use within the recommended dosage. However, side effects may occur. Consult a doctor if symptoms stay for a long time or become severe, experts say.

**Quality test:** SpiceJet was recently subject to inspection due to concerns over poor maintenance standards. •V.V. KRISHNAN

# SpiceJet pilot loses licence for six months

## Action on mid-flight incident in May

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has suspended the licence of a SpiceJet pilot for six months for a mid-flight incident in May which resulted in injuries to a few people onboard during air turbulence.

"The decision is based on our enquiry. A separate enquiry by the Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau is under way. The licence of the pilot-in-command has been suspended for six months," said a DGCA official.

Pilot sources have maintained that the incident was due to a faulty weather radar on the aircraft.

A DGCA source said, "We have explained the reasons in great detail in the order issued to the pilot. There was a delay in turning on the seat belt sign at the time of the turbulence. He also flew the plane from Durgapur to Kolkata instead of grounding it following an accident and operated the flight despite being informed that the radar had a glitch."

On May 1, a SpiceJet flight between Mumbai and Durgapur encountered severe turbulence during descent, which resulted in 14 passengers and three cabin crew members getting injured. The injuries were related to head, spine, shoulder and face. Some were also admitted to the ICU. The incident was classified as an accident, the DGCA had said.

This led to the DGCA ordering a fleet-wide inspection for SpiceJet due to concerns over poor maintenance standards. Last month, the regulator also served a show-cause notice and ordered the airline to fly only 50% of its approved flights.

In a separate case, the DGCA also suspended the licence of a pilot of a charter plane flying from Bokaro to Ranchi for falsely declaring low fuel to get priority landing. The incident happened in October last year.

# Model *nikahnama* remains a work in progress

## AIMPLB is yet to find a consensus on adding a clause to insert a prohibition on instant triple *talaq* in the document

ZIYA US SALAM
NEW DELHI

Five years after the All India Muslim Personal Law Board pledged to insert a prohibition on instant triple *talaq* in the model *nikahnama* to be used for solemnising Muslim marriages, the wedding contract remains a work under process. There is no clear word when, if at all, such a *nikahnama* would be readied and sent across to *qazis* who solemnise *nikahnama*.

An AIMPLB meeting earlier this month failed to reach a consensus on the content of the new model *nikahnama*.

Though there was large agreement on the need to insert a clause against instant triple *talaq* after the Supreme Court made it invalid and the Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Act made it a criminal act, the members suggested that a clause on *Talaq-e-Tafweez* or delegated divorce needed to be inserted.

Under *Talaq-e-Tafweez*, the husband vests his power to divorce in his wife, thereby effectively ruling out hasty or instant *talaq*. However, many intellectuals of the Hanafi sect did not agree to it, leading to a fresh failure to draft the new *nikahnama*.

### No consensus yet

SQR Ilyas, executive member of AIMPLB, says, "There have been differences on the issue of *Talaq-e-Tafweez* but broad agreement on prohibition on instant triple *talaq*. We hope to finalise the *nikahnama* by the end of this year."

Some members felt *khula*, women's inalienable right to instant divorce, was a viable alternative for women, thereby doing away with the need for the clause on *Talaq-e-Tafweez*.

Others though insisted that the husband's consent is necessary for *khula*.

**Terms and conditions:** A bride signs the *Nikahnama* at a mass wedding in Bhopal. •FILE PHOTO

The ideological logjam has been going on since 2017, when faced with the heat on the issue of instant triple *talaq*, the AIMPLB had pledged to formulate a *nikahnama* prohibiting *Talaq-e-Biddat*. Since then, multiple parleys have failed to bring about a consensus on the new *nikahnama* whose first model was formulated in 2003.

### A token contract

The *nikahnama* is essentially a contract between the spouses, containing terms and conditions of marriage.

Besides incorporating basic details of temporary and permanent residence, their respective age and the names of their parents, the *nikahnama* carries details of *mehr* (loosely translates to dower), which the husband has to pay his wife.

It can be paid immediately at the time of *nikahnama* or later, in which case deferred payment is clearly mentioned in the contract.

The *nikahnama* carries the signature of a *wakeel* (advocate) and two eyewitnesses, besides those of the bride and groom. The bride's consent is sought by the *qazi* in private without the presence of her parents to avoid family pressure on her to agree to the marriage.

In Mughal age, the *nikahnama* used to be an elaborate affair where girls often made it mandatory that in case things didn't work out, the *nikah* will not end through pronouncement of instant triple *talaq*.

There were conditions incorporated against polygamy, or permission granted with certain conditions, such as separate dwelling for the other wife.

The modern *nikahnama* used in Muslim marriages is often a token affair with no mention of the rights of the spouses.

In light of this, the AIMPLB had sought to issue an advisory that marriage should not end without making an attempt at reconciliation. And if *talaq* must be resorted to, it must be through the Koranic way.

However, what the model *nikahnama* fails to contain is an express prohibition on instant *talaq* even after half a decade of the Supreme Court's judgment invalidating triple *talaq* in 2017.

# Court lists bail conditions for Varavara Rao

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
MUMBAI

A special court here has directed poet-activist P. Varavara Rao – an accused in the Elgar Parishad-Maoist links case who was recently granted bail on medical grounds by the Supreme Court – to reside in Mumbai and not leave the city without its permission.

It also restricted Mr. Rao from having a "gathering of visitors" at his residence in Mumbai, and asked him not to indulge in any "criminal activities, similar to the case against him or otherwise" and not to contact any co-accused in the case or any other person involved in similar activities.

It directed the accused not to make any statement to media – be it print, electronic and social – regarding the case.

The court has asked the accused to furnish a fresh bond of ₹50,000 with two solvent sureties in the like amount.

The apex court had granted bail to Rao on August 10.

His bail conditions were set by the special court hearing cases related to the National Investigation Agency (NIA) recently, the details of which were made available on Saturday.

# Only J&K residents can enrol as voters

## Govt. issues clarification, but stays mum on whether outsiders with or without domicile can register

PEERZADA ASHIQ
SRINAGAR

The J&K government on Saturday clarified that only existing residents of the J&K who have attained the age of 18 would be enlisted in the electoral rolls but remained silent if domicile was a requirement for outsiders to get registered as voters.

Putting out advertisements in J&K-based news outlets, the government described the media reports of more than 25 lakh additions on the electoral rolls as a misrepresentation of facts, which was being spread by the vested interests.

"This revision of electoral rolls will cover existing residents of the UT of J&K and increase in numbers will be of the voters who have attained the age of 18 years as on 1.10.2022 or earlier," the government said.

The clarification remained silent on whether outsiders with or without domicile certificates could register as voters.

It said the number of electors as published in Special Summary Revision of J&K State in 2011 was 66,00,921; and the number of electors as on today in the electoral roll of J&K UT is 76,02,397. This increase is mainly due to the new voters, who attained the age of 18 years, it said.

Prior to 2019, when J&K had a special constitutional position, only the Permanent Residents Certificate was entertained as an official document to register local people as voters. No outsider was allowed to register as voters for the Assembly elections.

**Joint response:** The Gupkar alliance is set to form a strategy to oppose inclusion of outsiders on electoral roll. •NISSAR AHMAD

The government, however, said the fresh electoral rolls would "allow a person who has changed his ordinary place of residence to enrol at a new location by getting himself deleted at the old location".

### Special provisions

It said there was no change in the special provisions for Kashmiri migrants for their enrolment in the electoral rolls of their original native constituencies and "will continue to be given the option of voting at their place of enrolment or through postal ballot". The government spokesman said there was no change in rules regarding buying of property, or seeking jobs in the government of UT of J&K and "have no link to representation of voters or otherwise".

The Election Commission of India's announcement that outsiders could register as voters was opposed by political parties in J&K. The Gupkar alliance is set to meet on August 22 to form a joint strategy to oppose the move.

# 'Ukraine war increased interest in Russian weapons'

## India-specific sanction waiver by U.S. convincing other international clients: Russian defence official

DINAKAR PERI
MOSCOW

The recent exemption granted to India by the U.S. House of Representatives from sanctions under the Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act (CAASTA) for its S-400 deal is convincing other international customers apprehensive of sanctions to buy Russian equipment, a senior Russian defence official said, while stating that the delivery of S-400 systems to India is under way as per contract.

In this regard, he claimed that the "special military operation in Ukraine has significantly increased the interest of foreign partners in Russian weapons".

> I want to say that we consider the Western sanctions against Russian-Indian military-technical cooperation as unfair competition and pressure on the sovereignty of both Russia and India
>
> DMITRY SHUGAEV
> Director of the Russian Federal Service for Military-Technical Commission

"In general, I want to say that we consider the Western sanctions against Russian-Indian military-technical cooperation as unfair competition and pressure on the sovereignty of both Russia and India," Dmitry Shugaev, Director of the Russian Federal Service for Military-Technical Commission, said in response to questions from visiting journalists at the Army-2022 expo here.

"In my opinion, it is not the removal or imposition of sanctions by the U.S. against a particular country that should have an impact on the purchase of Russian weapons, but its quality and effectiveness," Mr. Shugaev stated.

On July 14, the U.S. House of Representatives passed a legislative amendment that approves an India-specific waiver from sanctions under CAASTA. However, it is yet to be approved by the U.S. Senate.

India has contracted five S-400 regiments under a $5.43-billion deal, and after some initial delay, the deliveries are now under way. Delivery of the second regiment has been delayed by a few months.

Referring to the war in Ukraine, Mr. Shugaev said that many of their partners evaluated the effectiveness of Russian equipment in combat based on available materials. "In addition, they were once again convinced of the high quality, reliability, durability and maintainability of Russian military products, which also made it possible to attract the attention of new potential buyers in various regions of the world," he said.

"In this regard, with a high degree of certainty, we can predict the growth of interest in Russian-made military equipment in the international market," he added.

## SUDOKU

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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

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| 3 | 9 | 6 | 8 | 7 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 4 |
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# At least 20 killed in Somalia hotel siege

## Security forces are battling al-Shabaab fighters to rescue those trapped in the building since Friday

ASSOCIATED PRESS
MOGADISHU

Islamic militants have stormed a hotel in Somalia's capital, engaging in an hours-long exchange of fire with the security forces that left at least 20 people dead, according to police and witnesses.

In addition, at least 40 people were wounded in the late Friday night attack. Security forces rescued many others, including children, from the scene at Mogadishu's Hayat Hotel, they said.

The attack started with explosions outside the hotel before the gunmen entered the building.

Somali forces were still trying to end the siege of the hotel almost 24 hours after the attack started. Gunfire could still be heard on Saturday evening as security forces tried to contain the last gunmen thought to be holed up on the hotel's top floor.

The Islamic extremist group al-Shabaab, which has ties with al-Qaeda, claimed responsibility for the attack, the latest of its frequent attempts to strike places visited by government officials. The attack on the hotel is the first major terror incident in Mogadishu since Somalia's new leader, Hassan Sheikh Mohamud, took over in May.

Security forces patrolling the streets after a terrorist attack at a hotel in Mogadishu. •REUTERS

There was no immediate word on the identities of the victims, but many are believed to be civilians.

Mohamed Abdirahman, director of Mogadishu's Madina Hospital, said that 40 people were admitted there with wounds or injuries from the attack. While nine were sent home after getting treatment, five are in critical condition in the ICU, he said.

"We were having tea near the hotel lobby when we heard the first blast, followed by gunfire. I immediately rushed toward hotel rooms on the ground floor and I locked the door," witness Abdullahi Hussein said by phone. "The militants went straight upstairs and started shooting. I was inside the room until the security forces arrived and rescued me."

He said on his way to safety he saw "several bodies lying on the ground outside hotel reception."

Al-Shabaab remains the most lethal Islamic extremist group in Africa.

The group has seized even more territory in recent years, taking advantage of rifts among Somali security personnel as well as disagreements between the government seat in Mogadishu and regional states. It remains the biggest threat to political stability in the volatile Horn of Africa nation.

Forced to retreat from Mogadishu in 2011, al-Shabaab is slowly making a comeback from the rural areas to which it retreated, defying the presence of African Union peacekeepers as well as U.S. drone strikes targeting its fighters.

The militants in early May attacked a military base for AU peacekeepers outside Mogadishu, killing many Burundian troops.

# Pak. wants permanent peace with India through talks: Sharif

## 'War not an option for either nation to resolve Kashmir issue'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
ISLAMABAD

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has said that Pakistan wants to have "permanent peace" with India through dialogue as war is not an option for either of the countries to resolve the Kashmir issue, according to a media report on Saturday.

Speaking to a delegation of students from Harvard University, Mr. Sharif also said that sustainable peace in the region was "linked to the resolution of the Kashmir issue as per the United Nations resolutions", *The News International* newspaper reported.

"We want permanent peace with India through dialogue as war is not an option for either of the countries," he was quoted as saying in the report.

Relations between India and Pakistan have often been strained over the Kashmir issue and cross-border terrorism emanating from Pakistan.

Shehbaz Sharif

However, the ties between the two countries nosedived after India abrogated Article 370 of the Constitution, revoking the special status to Jammu and Kashmir and bifurcating the State into two Union Territories on August 5, 2019.

India's decision evoked strong reactions from Pakistan, which downgraded diplomatic ties and expelled the Indian envoy. India has repeatedly told Pakistan that Jammu and Kashmir "was, is and shall forever" remain an integral part of the country.

India has said it desires normal neighbourly relations with Pakistan in an environment free of terror, hostility and violence.

During the interaction, Mr. Sharif pointed out that Islamabad and New Delhi should have competition in trade, economy and improving the conditions of their people.

Pakistan was not an aggressor, but its nuclear assets and the trained Army are deterrence, he said, adding that Islamabad spends on its military to protect their frontiers and not for aggression.

In response to a question about Pakistan's economy and the International Monetary Fund programme, the premier said that the country's economic crisis stem from structural problems along with political instability in the recent decades.

# Russian attack injures 12 in south Ukraine

## Several houses in Voznesensk, which is near a key nuclear plant, came under fire

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
KYIV

Twelve Ukrainians, including three children, were wounded on Saturday after Russian forces attacked an apartment block and several houses in the city of Voznesensk, near a key nuclear plant, prosecutors said.

"According to preliminary information, 12 people including three children were injured. Two children are in a serious condition," the prosecutor's office said on Telegram.

Regional Governor Vitaly Kim had earlier said on Telegram that nine people were injured, including four children aged between three and 17, and were "all in serious condition".

Voznesensk is located about 20 km from the nuclear plant at Pivdennoukrainsk, Ukraine's second largest, and 70 km from Mykolaiv, the regional capital.

The strikes hit an apartment building and several homes in the city, which is home to 30,000 people, the emergency services said on Facebook, showing a badly damaged building.

A rescuer helping a woman at a damaged building in Voznesensk. •REUTERS

The region, at the forefront of the war, suffers regular strikes.

"The terrorist country called Russia hit a residential building," presidential chief of staff Andriy Yermak said on Telegram.

The Ukrainian Army, meanwhile, said they had downed four Kalibr high-precision sea-launched cruise missiles fired from the Black Sea near the central city of Dnipro. It also reported Russian attacks in the eastern Donetsk region.

# UN to decide on travel curbs on Taliban

## 13 top members of the group were exempted from UNSC-imposed travel ban

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
NEW YORK

The United Nations is set to end travel ban exemptions for 13 Taliban officials on Friday, pending any deal by Security Council members on a possible extension, diplomats told AFP.

Under a 2011 UN Security Council resolution, 135 Taliban officials are subject to sanctions that include asset freezes and travel bans.

But 13 of them were granted exemptions from the travel ban to allow them to meet officials from other countries abroad.

In June, the 15-member UNSC's Afghanistan Sanctions Committee removed two Taliban Education Ministers from the exemption list over the regime's curtailment of women's rights.

**Divided UNSC**

At the same time, they renewed the exemption for the others until August 19, plus a further month if no member objected. Ireland objected this week, according to diplomatic sources.

China and Russia have called for an extension, while the U.S. has sought a reduced list of the officials allowed to travel and the destinations they can travel to.

The latest proposal on the table would allow just six officials to travel for diplomatic reasons, diplomatic sources told AFP.

If no member of the Council objects by Monday afternoon, it will come into force for three months.

In the meantime, the exemptions for the 13 officials ended at midnight on Friday.

Among the 13 are Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Ghani Baradar and Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Sher Mohammad Abbas Stanekzai.

A spokesperson for the Chinese mission at the UN, which currently holds the rotating presidency of the Security Council, this week called the Western position linking the travel ban to human rights "counterproductive."

## ELSEWHERE

### French President to visit Algeria to revive ties

PARIS

French President Emmanuel Macron will visit Algeria next week in a bid to improve strained ties between Paris and Algiers, the French presidency said in a statement on Saturday. French-Algerian ties hit a low late last year after Mr. Macron reportedly questioned whether Algeria had existed as a nation before the French invasion. Algeria withdrew its Ambassador in response. AFP

### 32 killed in Turkey in separate accidents

ISTANBUL

At least 32 people were killed in southeast Turkey on Saturday when vehicles crashed into first respondents who were attending earlier accidents, authorities said. Sixteen people, including emergency workers and journalists, died when a bus crashed into an earlier accident site, Governor Davut Gul from southeastern province of Gaziantep said. Another 20 people were wounded and received treatment. REUTERS

# Russian crops, fertilizer must reach world markets: UN chief

## It is key to avert a food crisis that may hit the world in 2023

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
ISTANBUL

Russian fertilizers and agricultural produce must be able to reach world markets "unimpeded' or a global food crisis could strike as early as next year, UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres said on Saturday.

"It is important that all governments and the private sector cooperate to bring them to market," he said from the Joint Coordination Center (JCC).

The JCC oversees the implementation of the Ukrainian grain export agreement signed in July by Kyiv and Moscow with the UN and Turkey as guarantors.

The agreement also guarantees Russia the right to export its agricultural products and fertilizers despite Western sanctions.

"What we see here in Istanbul and in Odesa is only the more visible part of the solution. The other part of this package deal is the unimpeded access to the global markets of Russian food and fertilizer, which are not subject to sanctions," Mr. Guterres said, adding that despite this, Russian fertilizer and agricultural exports still faced "obstacles."

Antonio Guterres

"Without fertilizer in 2022, there may not be enough food in 2023. Getting more food and fertilizer out of Ukraine and Russia is crucial to further calm commodity markets and lower prices for consumers," he said.

Mr. Guterres travelled this week to Ukraine, where he met with the Presidents of Ukraine and Turkey, Volodymyr Zelensky and Recep Tayyip Erdogan, in the western city of Lviv Thursday.

He headed to the southern city of Odesa on Friday.

Earlier Saturday, he visited the first aid ship chartered by the United Nations to transport Ukrainian grain on the southern shores of Istanbul in the Sea of Marmara.

The *Brave Commander* left the Ukrainian port of Pivdenny on Tuesday with 23,000 tonnes of wheat before crossing the Bosphorus on Wednesday evening.

The UN chief vowed Thursday that his organisation would try to "step up" grain exports from Ukraine before the onset of winter, which are crucial for food supplies in many African countries.

Under the agreement signed in July, 6,50,000 tons of Ukrainian grain and agricultural products have left the Ukrainian ports of Odessa, Chornomorsk and Pivdenny since August 1.

Cereal exports from Ukraine, one of the world's leading producers and exporters, were blocked for several months due to the Russian invasion, raising fears of a global food crisis.

# U.K. railway strike hits weekend leisure travel

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
LONDON

Railway staff in Britain on Saturday staged the latest in a series of strikes, the second in three days, as decades-high inflation hit salaries and prompted walkouts across various industries.

The stoppage by tens of thousands of workers disrupted weekend leisure travel with only around one in five trains set to run and some areas having no services.

It comes during a summer of industrial action across Britain, with staff in various sectors pushing for pay rises and better working conditions. "We cannot tolerate being bullied or hoodwinked into accepting a raw deal for our members," Mick Lynch, general secretary of the Rail, Maritime and Transport union (RMT), said.

**BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE**
Office of the Executive Engineer (Ele), West Division, No. 98, 8th Cross, Malleshwaram, Bengaluru-560 003.

No.EE/ELE)/W/TEND/06/2022-23 Date:20.08.2022

**INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER**
(Through GOK e-Procurement Portal only)

The Executive Engineer (Ele), West Division invites tenders from eligible contractors for the work detailed in the table below:

| Sl. No. | Work Details | Estimated Amount (Rs. in Lakhs) | EMD (in Rs.) |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Works Reserved for General Category (Others)** | | | |
| 1 | Providing Temporary Public address system with accessories, Diesel Generator, CCTV Camera with equipments, Ladder Mounted Vehicle, LT Panel Board, Flood Lights and extension boxes on the occasion of Imersion of Lord Ganesha Idols at Sankey Tank Lake in Old Ward No. 35 / New Ward No. 60. | 5.90 | 14,800/- |

**1)** Tender documents may be downloaded from GoK e-procurement portal from **20.08.2022 onwards. 2)** Last date for submission of tenders: **26.08.2022 upto 4.00 p.m. 3)** Opening of Tenders: **29.08.2022 at 4.30 p.m.** Further details can be accessed from GoK e-procurement website: **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** or contact the office of the undersigned.

**Sd/- Executive Engineer(Ele), West Division.**

STAY PROTECTED FROM COVID-19. NO CARELESSNESS UNTIL THERE IS A CURE.
Wear Mask | 6 Feet Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene

ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾನಿಲಯ
**BENGALURU CITY UNIVERSITY**
BE BOUNDLESS
Office of the Registrar, Central College Campus, Dr. B.R Ambedkar Veedhi, Bengaluru – 560 001.Ph.No.080-22961016 / 22131385, E-mail: registrarbcu@gmail.com

Indent No: BCU/2022-23/IND37 Date: 20-08-2022

**TENDER NOTIFICATION**
(Through E-Procurement portal only)
https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in/

1) **NAME OF THE WORK : Providing Computers, Printers, LCD Projectors and other items to the New Departments of Environmental Science, Computer Science, Mathematics, Plant Science, Animal Science, Management, English at Central College Campus, Bengaluru City University, Bengaluru. 2) EMD :** Rs. 2,45,000/-. 3) LAST DATE FOR QUERIES : **03-09-2022 Up to 12.00hrs.** 4) Pre bid meeting date and place : **05-09-2022 at 11.00 hrs. Registrar's Office, Central College Campus, Bengaluru Central University, Bengaluru.** 5) LAST DATE FOR SUBMISSION OF TENDER : **07-09-2022 Up to 16.00hrs.** 6) OPENING OF THE TECHNICAL BID : **08-09-2022 at 16.30hrs. 7)** OPENING OF THE FINANCIAL BID: **12-09-2022 at 16.30hrs.**

**Note:** Payment of Tender processing fee and EMD amount as per E-procurement Portal.

DIPR/CP/1893/AKAR/22-23 **Sd/- REGISTRAR**

COVID-19 - DON'T SPREAD RUMOURS, ACT RESPONSIBLY, AVOID INFECTION-NOT THE
Wear Mask | 6 Feet Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene

**BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE**
Office of the Executive Engineer, Road Infrastructure, Yalahanka Division, N.R. Square, Bengaluru-560 002.

No: EE/R/YNK/TEND/09/2022-23 Date: 20.08.2022

**INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER (IFT)**
(Through **GOK e-Procurement Portal** only)(Two Cover System)

The Executive Engineer, Road Infrastructure-Yalahanka Division, BBMP, Bengaluru, invites tenders from eligible Contractors registered in Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike or equivalent registration with CPWD/KPWD/Railways/MES/National Highway or any State Government Organizations for the construction of works detailed in the table below.

| Name of the work | Appx. Amount Put to Tender (₹. in Lakhs) | EMD (in ₹.) |
|---|---|---|
| Construction of Ramps and Allied Works on both side of Pedestrian under bridge at L.C.11 Jakkuru, Yalahanka Zone. | 35.73 | 71,500/- |

**Calendar of Events:** (1) Tender documents may be downloaded in the e-procurement portal of Government of Karnataka from **22.08.2022**. (2) Tenders must be submitted online through e-procurement portal on or before **29.08.2022** upto **5:30** pm. (3) Last Date for Receipt of Queries is **25.08.2022** upto **3:00** pm in the Office of the Executive Engineer, Road Infrastructure, Yalahanka Division, BBMP. (4) Pre-Tender Meeting will be held in the Office of the Chief Engineer, (Road Infrastructure) on **25.08.2022** at **4:00** pm. (4) Technical Bids will be opened in the Office of the Executive Engineer, (Road Infrastructure-Yalahanka Division) on **01.09.2022** at **4:30** pm. Further details may be obtained from the above office during office hours on working days or from website: **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in**

**Sd/- Executive Engineer, Road Infrastructure Yalahanka Division**

STAY PROTECTED FROM COVID-19. NO CARELESSNESS UNTIL THERE IS A CURE.
Wear Mask | 6 Feet Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
**ವಾಣಿಜ್ಯ ತೆರಿಗೆಗಳ ಇಲಾಖೆ**
ವಾಣಿಜ್ಯ ತೆರಿಗೆಗಳ ಜಂಟಿ ಆಯುಕ್ತರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ, 3ನೇ ಮಹಡಿ, ವಿಭಾಗ-2 'ಎ' ಬ್ಲಾಕ್, ಕೋರಮಂಗಲ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು – 560047 ರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ
ದೂರವಾಣಿ: 080-25704962, E-mail: cto-vig17.bng@ka.gov.in

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ವಾಣಿಜಂಆ/ವಾತೆಇ/ಜಾ-17/ಐಎನ್‌ಎಲ್-01/2022-23. ದಿನಾಂಕ: 19-08-2022

:: ಹರಾಜು ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ::

ವಾಣಿಜ್ಯ ತೆರಿಗೆ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ (ಜಾಗೃತಿ)-17, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು, ಇವರು ದಿನಾಂಕ: 22-06-2022 ರಂದು ತಂಬಾಕು ಮತ್ತು ಪಾನ್ ಮಸಾಲ ಸರಕನ್ನು, ಸರಕು ಮತ್ತು ನೇವಾ ತೆರಿಗೆ ಕಾಯ್ದೆ, 2017ರ ಕಲಂ 130ರ ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮುಟ್ಟುಗೋಲು ಹಾಕಿಕೊಂಡಿದ್ದು, ಸದರಿ ಆದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ ಸೃಷ್ಟಿಯಾದ ತಾಗಿದ ಮೊತ್ತವನ್ನು ವಸೂಲಿ ಮಾಡುವ ಸಂಬಂಧವಾಗಿ ಸದರಿ ಸರಕನ್ನು "ಹೇಗೆ ಇದೆಯೋ ಹಾಗೆಯೇ" ಇರುವ ಸ್ಥಿತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಹರಾಜು ಮೂಲಕ ವಿಲೇವಾರಿ ಮಾಡಲು ಇಲಾಖೆಯು ಉದ್ದೇಶಿಸಿದ್ದು, ಈ ಸಂಬಂಧ ಆಸಕ್ತಿಯುಳ್ಳ ಖರೀದಿದಾರರಿಂದ ಪಡೆದ ಸೀಲು ಮಾಡಿದ ಬಿಡ್ಡು ಲಕೋಟೆಯನ್ನು ದಿನಾಂಕ: 30-08-2022 ರಂದು ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 11.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ ಮೇಲ್ಕಂಡ ಕಛೇರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ತೆರೆಯಲಾಗುವುದು. ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ಷರತ್ತುಗಳಿಗೆ ಒಳಪಟ್ಟಂತೆ ಆಸಕ್ತಿಯುಳ್ಳ ಖರೀದಿದಾರರು ಮುಚ್ಚಿದ ಲಕೋಟೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಬಿಡ್ ಅನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಿ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಹರಾಜಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.

-:: ಷರತ್ತುಗಳು ::-

(1) ಮುಟ್ಟುಗೋಲು ಹಾಕಿಕೊಂಡಿರುವ ಸರಕನ್ನು ಪಿ.ಪಿ. ಯಾರ್ಡ್, ದಾಬಸ್‌ಪೇಟೆ, ತುಮಕೂರು ರಸ್ತೆಯ ಗೋದಾಮಿನಲ್ಲಿ ದಾಸ್ತಾನು ಮಾಡಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಆಸಕ್ತಿಯುಳ್ಳ ಖರೀದಿದಾರರು ದಿನಾಂಕ: 22-08-2022 ರಿಂದ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 29-08-2022 ರ ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 11.00 ಗಂಟೆಯಿಂದ 3.00 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ ಕಛೇರಿಯ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸದರಿ ಸರಕನ್ನು ಸ್ಥಂತ ಖರ್ಚಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಪರಿಶೀಲಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. (2) ಹರಾಜು ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಲು ಆಸಕ್ತಿಯುಳ್ಳ ಖರೀದಿದಾರರು ರೂ.6,50,000-00 ಮೌಲ್ಯದ ಮೊತ್ತವನ್ನು ವಾಣಿಜ್ಯ ತೆರಿಗೆ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ (ಜಾಗೃತಿ)-17, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು / Commercial Tax Officer (Vigilance)-17, Bangalore, ಇವರ ಹೆಸರಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಡಿ.ಡಿ.ಯನ್ನು ಪಡೆದು ಈ ಕಛೇರಿಗೆ ಮೊಹರಾದ ಬಿಡ್ ಲಕೋಟೆಯೊಂದಿಗೆ ದಿನಾಂಕ 29.08.2022ರ ಅಪರಾಹ್ನ 3.30 ಗಂಟೆಯೊಳಗಾಗಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸತಕ್ಕದ್ದು. (3) ಕಾರಣಾಂತರಗಳಿಂದ ಬಿಡ್ ಅನ್ನು ಒಪ್ಪುವ ಅಥವಾ ತಿರಸ್ಕರಿಸುವ ಹಕ್ಕನ್ನು ವಾಣಿಜ್ಯ ತೆರಿಗೆ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ (ಜಾಗೃತಿ)-17, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು, ಇವರು ಹೊಂದಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ. (4) ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿ, ಷರತ್ತು ಮತ್ತು ನಿಬಂಧನೆಗಳನ್ನು ಮೇಲ್ಕಂಡ ಕಛೇರಿಯ ಜಾಹೀರಾತು ಫಲಕ ಮತ್ತು ಇಲಾಖೆಯ ಜಾಲತಾಣ http://ctax.kar.nic.in/ publicauction.asp/https://gst.kar.nic.in/TenderAuction2021.aspx ರಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಸಹಿ/- ವಾಣಿಜ್ಯ ತೆರಿಗೆ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ
(ಜಾಗೃತಿ)-17, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು

**GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA**
**DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES**
**Office of the Additional Chief Engineer, Rushikulya Bahuda Basin, Berhampur-760004**
e-mail id : se_sicbam@yahoo.com

**e - Procurement Notice No. ACE, RBB- 18 / 2022-23**

1. Type of Work : **System Improvement Work.**
2. Total No. of Works : **01 (One) No.**
3. Amount put to Tender : **Rs.708.11 lakh**
4. Period of Completion : **17 (Seventeen) Calendar months**

| Procurement Officer | Bid Identification No. | Bid Amount (Rs. in lakh) | Availability & Submission of Bid On-line |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Additional Chief Engineer, Rushikulya Bahuda Basin, Berhampur** | **ACE,RBB (BNID)-42/2022-23** | **708.11** | From **02.09.2022 10.00 AM** to **16.09.2022, 5.00 PM** |

Date of opening of the Technical Bid :- **17.09.2022 at 11.30 A.M.**
Further details can be seen from the Govt. Website "**www.tendersodisha.gov.in**".

**Additional Chief Engineer, Rushikulya Bahuda Basin, Berhampur**

A-460 : OIPR-32411/11/8026/2223

SNAPSHOTS

**Feeling tired**
A desire to rest after a day spent toiling at the computer could be a physiological response to mentally demanding work. People who spent more than six hours working on a mentally taxing assignment had higher levels of glutamate, which can disrupt brain function.

**Mode of spread**
As monkeypox cases rise globally, studies suggest that repeated skin-to-skin contact is the main method of transmission. Since early May, the infection has spread mostly in men who have sex with men. One study reported that skin lesion samples contain more viral DNA than do those from the throat.

**Cutting emissions**
A reduction of 686 million tons of carbon emissions per year could be achieved if every person in the world cycled 2.6 km per day, similar to cycling patterns in The Netherlands, a *Communications Earth & Environment* paper reports. The findings are based on a global assessment of bicycle production, and usage by the country from 1962-2015.

# Corbevax booster should be a vaccine of choice

## Due to faulty clinical trial design, the superiority of Corbevax heterologous booster over homologous boosters is not known

R. PRASAD

On January 10, 2022, booster doses were rolled out for health-care and frontline workers and those above 60 years with comorbidities. It was then expanded to all adults above 18 years from April 10. The greenlighting of booster doses on December 25, 2021 was done even without the approval of the vaccine approval body of the National Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (NTAGI). At the time of greenlighting booster doses and even now, only Covaxin and Corbevax booster trial data are available. No clinical trial data of Covishield as a booster dose are available even now, seven months after the rollout of booster doses.

In December last year, when Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced the rollout of booster doses for the three high-risk, vulnerable categories, only the same vaccine as used for primary vaccination – homologous boosting – was allowed.

The phase-3 clinical trial data of Bio E's Corbevax vaccine given as a booster dose to people who had received either Covaxin or Covishield during primary vaccination – heterologous boosting – showed the vaccine to be safe and effective in producing elevated antibodies levels.

Based on this data, on June 3, the Indian drug regulator approved Corbevax as a heterologous booster for all adults; NTAGI's approval came at the end of July. And on August 10, the government approved the use of Corbevax as a heterologous booster shot to all adults who have received two doses of either Covaxin or Covishield.

The clinical trials of heterologous boosting carried out in other countries have found greater elevation of antibody levels (which is the criterion used for regulatory approvals) than homologous boosting.

### Heterologous boosting

While Bio E's phase-3 trial did indeed show Corbevax used as a heterologous booster shot was both safe and enhanced the immune responses, the clinical trial failed to show if heterologous boosting with Corbevax was superior to homologous boosting with either Covaxin or Covishield. This was because the trial used a placebo for the control arm, and hence, no comparison could be made with homologous boosting.

Just like the second dose, a booster dose – homologous or heterologous – too will produce elevated immune responses when administered a few months after primary vaccination. So, the elevated immune responses seen when Corbevax was used as a heterologous booster was not unexpected.

"Third shot of any vaccine results in antibody production, be it homologous or heterologous. The evidence and broader principle are that heterologous boosting results in far greater quantities of antibodies than homologous boosting," says Dr. Chandrakant Lahariya, Physician-epidemiologist and vaccines specialist. "So, while every combination has not been studied, cumulative scientific evidence and understanding of immunology together, it is fair to believe that Corbevax as heterologous booster is a choice of vaccine for India," he adds.

So people who prefer a heterologous booster shot with Corbevax can be quite sure that the immune response might be higher than getting boosted with the same vaccine as used for primary vaccination but will not know how much more effective Corbevax will be compared with homologous boosting.

In contrast, a heterologous comparator trial was conducted by Dr. Gagandeep Kang, Professor of Microbiology and her team at the Christian Medical College (CMC), Vellore. The trial compared the safety and efficacy of Covaxin and Covishield as a heterologous booster. The trial found that people who had received two doses of Covaxin followed by Covishield booster shot showed higher antibody levels compared with people who had received two doses of Covishield followed by Covaxin as a booster shot.

The government had recently reduced the gap between the second dose and the booster shot from nine to six months. If the nine months gap between the second dose and the booster shot was decided without any data, there is no scientific evidence of better immune responses when the booster dose – homologous or heterologous – is given six months after the second dose.

"In my opinion, once two primary shots are administered for healthy adults, the approach should be to delay the booster shot as long as possible. For high-risk individuals with no history of COVID-19 infection, it could be a six- or nine-month interval for precaution shots. However, everyone else, including adults aged 18-59 years with co-morbidities but with past infection can delay booster vaccination for nine months or even longer after the second shot," he says.

### Why heterologous boosting appears superior

Evidence and broader principle is that heterologous boosting results in greater quantities of antibodies than homologous boosting

1. Bio E's Corbevax vaccine given as a booster dose to people who had received either Covaxin or Covishield during primary vaccination produced elevated antibodies levels
2. But the trial failed to show if heterologous boosting with Corbevax was superior to homologous boosting with either Covaxin or Covishield
3. The trial used a placebo for the control arm, and hence, no comparison can be made with homologous boosting
4. Cumulative scientific evidence and understanding of immunology show heterologous boosters are better than homologous boosters
5. Once two primary doses are administered for healthy adults, the approach should be to delay the booster shot as long as possible
6. Uptake of booster doses has been low – 65% for health-care workers, 72% among frontline workers, 30% in adults older than 60 years, and 13% in the adults 45-59 years old
7. The role of boosters in providing other benefits in terms of preventing severe disease or death is limited

**Not alarming:** The level of antibodies produced by first generation vaccines against Omicron is slightly lower but the reduction is marginal.

### Poor uptake

Besides the issue of efficacy, the larger question is the poor uptake of booster doses even among the three high-risk, vulnerable groups – health-care and frontline workers and those above 60 years. Despite the three categories becoming eligible for a booster shot from January 10 onwards, 65% of health-care workers have taken the booster shot as of August 16; at 72%, it is slightly higher among frontline workers. With 30% and 13%, the lowest uptake of booster shots is among adults older than 60 years and those in the age group 45-59 years, respectively.

The uptake has been low in the 60 years plus age group despite comorbidity conditionality was removed and the vaccine became available for free. The decision to make booster doses free for a limited period defies any public health logic. "I don't understand the rationale of making COVID-19 precaution dose free for 75 days in government facilities. To me, it is very arbitrary," says Dr. Lahariya.

### Role of Omicron

It is true that a large percentage of people, both fully vaccinated and even boosted and the unvaccinated were infected with one or more of Omicron variant sub-lineages. It is currently not known if fully vaccinated people who have been subsequently infected gain substantially when boosted. "Vaccination does not protect from reinfections and the majority of India's adult population has received both recommended shots. Therefore, giving a third or fourth or any subsequent shot is not going to prevent infections. The role of boosters in providing other benefits in terms of preventing severe disease or deaths is also marginal or limited," Dr. Lahariya says.

But considering that the percentage of the population that has been boosted is small and yet hospitalisations and deaths have not increased, do we need to get boosted at all? "As per current scientific evidence and Indian context, a third or precaution shot is needed only for high-risk and vulnerable populations. For others, it should be a voluntary choice and that is the approach in India," he adds.

And given the greater immune escape capability and less disease severity in the fully vaccinated when infected with any of the Omicron variants, it is again unclear if a booster dose is necessary for all adults. "The booster or precaution dose policy needs to be more granular than the primary vaccination policy. For the high-risk and vulnerable population, a third shot should be administered. Thereafter, in India, there is no need of any further shot for any population subgroup," he says.

Also, the booster doses of all three vaccines – Covishield, Covaxin and Corbevax – have been developed based on the ancestral strain and not any of the Omicron variants. So, the question is whether homologous or heterologous boosting based on the ancestral strain will have the same effect as a booster shot based on one of the Omicron variants. "The level of antibodies produced by first generation vaccines against Omicron is slightly lower. However, the difference is marginal. That is not a reason, in my opinion, to argue for an additional shot. While research on multivalent or newer generation vaccines should continue, availability of such vaccines would not make an automatic case for another shot," Dr. Lahariya adds.

# Extreme waves of COVID-19 may have faster-than-expected growth rates

## Identifying the correct growth pattern at the start of an epidemic wave can help in better preparation

SHUBASHREE DESIKAN

All over the world, epidemiologists have tried to understand the dynamics of COVID-19. A study from Indian Institute of Technology, Madras, may offer a different perspective to modelling COVID-19 dynamics.

Since December 2019, several waves of COVID-19 have washed over populations across the world, in different countries. It is important to understand their dynamics, so that governments can plan mitigation strategies at every level. With this aim in mind, researchers study disease dynamics models, many of which build on the idea that the growth of infections is exponential in nature. An example of exponential growth is the series 2, 4, 8, 16... which doubles at constant rate.

### Fast growth

A recent work from IIT Madras suggests that the growth rate of infections is hyperexponential, that is, faster than exponential, in the initial stages of extreme (severe) waves of COVID-19. This is based on their study of 12 representative waves of COVID-19 across nine countries (India, the U.S., U.K., South Africa, Germany, Italy, Japan, Brazil and Mexico). They also study two cases of such waves in Indian cities (Chennai and Delhi).

The researchers observed faster-than-exponential growth in extreme (severe) waves in each of the studied countries. "The growth rate is not constant; it is increasing. The rate of change of infections per day is not proportional to the current number of infections," says R.I. Sujith, who is D. Srinivasan Chair Professor, Department of Aerospace Engineering, IIT Madras, and an author of the paper published in *Chaos*.

### Oscillations not noise

Further, the researchers find that the average per week of acquired infections oscillates about a mean value before reaching a saturation. "The mean is not constant here. It is growing as a power law, so the correct phrase is 'mean power law growth'," explains Induja Pavithran, a post-doctoral fellow from the Aerospace Engineering Department of IIT Madras and the first author of the paper. These are known as "log periodic oscillations."

"Log-periodic oscillations are not noise, but they are there as a consequence of the discrete nature of the spreading process," she says.

The hyperexponential growth of COVID-19 waves implies that the growth rate varies continuously during the transmission. New variants of the virus can have higher growth rates," says Prof. Sujith explaining one reason for the pattern they observe.

### Problems with data

There is, however, a question as to whether this nonlinearity may stem from inhomogeneities in the data. "There is no discussion of other possible reasons for the deviation from exponential growth," says R. Shankar, Chennai-based condensed matter physicist, who has analysed COVID-19 data.

He refers to, for example, the inhomogeneous nature of the population in a country, variation in the level of detection of cases due to testing levels, changing human behaviour during the growth period (masking and physical distancing levels), and so on, which can also cause deviations from exponential growth within the standard compartmental models.

"The discrepancy between reported and actual cases is always a problem. Therefore, we should not compare the data between different countries...," says Prof. Sujith.

"A weekly average will remove such fluctuations arising due to the inconsistency in the number of tests per day," he says. "We can expect different types spread over large countries. To avoid this, we choose to demonstrate the log-periodicity for densely populated cities or small countries," he adds, explaining that the limitations of the study have been pointed out in the paper.

### Warning sign

Next, the researchers are thinking of getting more information from data such as secondary infection rate and the spreading pattern itself. "Also, by identifying the correct growth pattern at the start of an epidemic wave helps us to be prepared for future outbreaks or pandemics. Log-periodic can warn us of impending catastrophic waves," says Dr. Induja Pavithran.

# *Improving rice yield with an additional gene*

## Adding a second copy of one of its own genes has boosted the yield of a Chinese rice variety by up to 40%

SPEAKING OF SCIENCE

D. BALASUBRAMANIAN

The Green Revolution of the 1960s brought about a marked improvement in the yield of agricultural crops such as rice and wheat. It was based on the use of newly developed high-yielding crop varieties in conjunction with the intense use of irrigation, chemical fertilizers and pesticides. India saw a three-fold increase in rice yield per hectare.

Now, fifty years later, some negative effects of this intense methodology are becoming apparent – nitrogen fertilizers and agrochemicals pose environmental hazards; water is often in short supply; and agricultural soil is increasingly fatigued.

To obtain more food for the world's growing population, forests and grasslands would have to be converted to farms in order to produce food. This, in turn, would enormously strain our ecosystems.

### 40% yield increase

A possible way out of this conundrum has been suggested in a recent publication by Wei et al., "A transcriptional regulator that boosts grain yields and shortens the growth duration of rice", which appears in the journal *Science*, July 22, 2022. Erik Stokstad, a reporter for *Science* points out in the same issue that "supercharged biotech rice yields 40% more grain".

This report points out that giving a Chinese rice variety a second copy of one of its own genes has boosted its yield by up to 40%. When a second copy of a single gene (called *OsDREBIC*) is added to rice, it improves photosynthesis and nitrogen use, speeds up flowering and absorbing nitrogen more efficiently – offering larger and more abundant grains. The change helps the plant absorb more fertilizer, boosts photosynthesis, and accelerates flowering, all of which could contribute to larger harvests.

**The difference:** Added the same gene again, and not any foreign one, can be called genetic modulation. • GETTY IMAGES

### Rice exports

India is the world's largest exporter of rice. It exported 18.75 million metric tons to over 150 countries during the year 2021-22, thereby earning $6.11 billion. This is a vast improvement from what it did a few years ago. As Adhikari et al. point out in 2016 (Export of rice from India; performance and determinants. *Agri. Econ. Res. Review*), it is clear that with growing demand in the coming years, strategies should be found to increase the production and export of rice.

Vietnam turns out to be the second most producer of rice, and it produced 6.5 million tonnes in 2021-2022. It has to be much more than the 18.75 million tons for India to continue and expand its role as the world's largest producer and exporter of rice. It is here that the above-mentioned paper from China by Wei *et al.* in *Science* is of value.

### Gene modulation

A key point is that the researchers have added the same gene again, and not any foreign one. This is best described as genetic modulation. It is not a genetic modification (GM) and neither is the result a transgenic plant, carrying elements from another donor.

This is particularly relevant to India, which must aim to continue its world position in the production of rice and marketing. An article published on June 16 in *The Wire* ('India's GM crops regulation should be based on a gene's effects, not its source') points out that "India has exempted crops with certain kinds of genetic modifications from the regulations previously imposed on the commercialisation of all genetically modified crops".

For example, BT cotton involves the transfer of the gene from the bacterium called *Bacillus thurigiensis* (BT) to be transferred to normal cotton. India's Agriculture Ministry has pointed out in 2019 that they have allowed transfer of this foreign gene to normal cotton, produce the BT cotton, which is then manufactured and sold both in India and abroad.

Likewise, an article in *Business Standard* points out that India will import 1.2 million tons of genetically modified (GM) soyabeans for livestock feed. Now, if the ministry allows the import of GM soyabean from abroad, why should it not allow the manufacture of this in India itself?

On the other hand, what the *Science* authors had done above is to add an extra copy of an already existing 'native' gene (*OsDREBIC*) in rice, and not a foreign one, as in the case of BT cotton or BT soyabean. India has some excellent rice researchers located in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Punjab and Haryana, and genetic engineers in several laboratories across the country.

The Ministry of Agriculture can come together with the Department of Biotechnology (DBT) and nutritionists from the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) can support these researchers to augment India's role as the major rice exporter in the world.

*dbala@hpei.org*

## Question Corner

### Moon's origin

***Do we have new evidence of the Moon's origin linked to the Earth?***

Over the course of nearly five centuries, researchers put forward numerous, much debated theories as to how the Moon was formed. Now, researchers at ETH Zurich discover the first definitive proof that the Moon inherited indigenous noble gases from the Earth's mantle. They show that the Moon inherited the indigenous noble gases of helium and neon from Earth's mantle (Science Advances).

The discovery adds to the already strong constraints on the currently favoured "Giant Impact" theory that hypothesises that the Moon was formed by a massive collision between Earth and another celestial body.

The researchers analysed six samples of lunar meteorites – consisting of basalt rock that formed when magma welled up from the interior of the Moon and cooled quickly – from an Antarctic collection. The meteorites remained covered by additional basalt layers after their formation, which protected the rock from cosmic rays and, particularly, the solar wind.

They discovered that the glass particles retain the chemical fingerprints (isotopic signatures) of the solar gases: helium and neon from the Moon's interior. Their findings strongly support that the Moon inherited noble gases indigenous to the Earth, says a press release.

Using a state-of-the-art noble gas mass spectrometer named "Tom Dooley" the researchers were able to measure sub-millimetre glass particles from the meteorites and rule out solar wind as the source of the detected gases.

Readers may send their questions / answers to questioncorner@thehindu.co.in

In protest: PDP President Mehbooba Mufti speaks to the media at her residence in Srinagar on August 18. • AP

# Kashmir voters' list

## What is the controversy around the revision of electoral rolls in the erstwhile State of J&K?

PEERZADA ASHIQ

**The story so far:** On August 17, the J&K Chief Electoral Officer (CEO), Hirdesh Kumar, announced that anyone "who is living ordinarily in J&K" can avail the opportunity to get enlisted as a voter in the Union Territory in accordance with the provisions of the Representation of the People Act. He said that many people who were not enlisted as voters in the erstwhile State of J&K are now eligible to vote after the reading down of Article 370 on August 5, 2019. The Election Commission of India (ECI) was expecting an addition of 20-25 lakh new voters in the final list in J&K, he added.

**Who else is eligible to vote?**

■ Mr. Kumar suggested that armed forces posted in J&K could also register as voters and could possibly participate in the first ever Assembly polls in the youngest Union Territory (UT) of the country. The CEO said the existing electoral roll is being mapped into the newly delimited Assembly constituencies as per the Delimitation Commission's final order made applicable by the Union Law Ministry with effect from May 20, 2022.

**Why are electoral rolls being revised?**

■ The ECI is working on fresh electoral rolls in J&K after the J&K Delimitation Commission earlier this year carved out seven new Assembly constituencies in the UT, six going to Jammu division and one to Kashmir, under the Jammu & Kashmir Reorganisation Act adopted in 2019. Jammu now has 43 seats against 47 in Kashmir. The Delimitation Commission has re-drawn many constituencies and fresh electoral rolls are essential to prepare the ground for any announcement of elections in J&K, where the last Assembly elections took place in 2014. In a latest move, the ECI has decided that it will also include any person who has attained the age of 18 years on or before October 1, 2022 in the fresh electoral rolls. The final electoral roll would be published on November 25.

> The Chief Electoral Officer said armed forces posted in Jammu & Kashmir could also register as voters in the new Union Territory. Assembly polls were last held in 2014, and J&K lost its special status in 2019

**What did the CEO announce?**

■ Mr. Kumar said there is no need for a person to have a domicile certificate of J&K to become a voter. "An employee, a student, a labourer or anyone from outside who is living ordinarily in J&K can enlist his or her name in the voting list," Mr. Kumar said. He said armed forces from different parts of the country "have the option that if they are posted in a peace station they can enlist themselves as voters." Mr. Kumar said "Jammu is a peace station and anyone from outside posted in the armed forces in the city can avail the option to enlist as a voter." He observed that around 25 lakh new voters are expected to be enrolled in J&K, which has 76 lakh voters on the list. He said the projected 18-plus population of J&K was around 98 lakh. After the abrogation of special provisions of Article 370, the Representation of the People Act 1950 and 1951 is applicable in J&K, officials said, which allows ordinarily residing persons to get registered in the electoral rolls of J&K, "provided he or she gets their name deleted from the electoral roll of his or her native constituency."

**How were the J&K electoral rolls revised prior to 2019?**

■ Prior to August 5, 2019 when J&K had special constitutional powers, the Assembly electoral rolls in the State were drawn up according to the Jammu & Kashmir Representation of the People Act 1957, wherein only permanent residents of J&K were eligible to get registered in the Assembly rolls. To get voting rights, Permanent Resident Certificate and domicile certificates had to be shown. Several lakh residents from west Pakistan and Pakistan Occupied Kashmir, who had migrated to J&K and were living there for decades, had no voting rights in Assembly elections till August 5, 2019 but were able to vote in the parliamentary elections.

**Why has the ECI announcement caused a furore?**

■ All political parties in J&K, except the BJP, have reacted sharply to the ECI announcement. J&K's main regional parties, including the National Conference, Peoples Democratic Party, CPI(M) and Peoples Conference, have expressed concerns that the move will open the floodgates and turn locals into an electoral minority. Former Chief Minister and PDP president Mehbooba Mufti expressed concern that there was a plan to bring 25 lakh non-locals and make them eligible to cast their votes in the next J&K elections. "This is the last nail in the coffin of electoral democracy," Ms. Mufti said. Peoples Conference chairman Sajad Lone compared the move with the 1987 rigged elections in J&K, which resulted in mass militancy in Kashmir in the 1990s. "Please remember 1987. We are yet to come out of that. Don't re-play 1987. It will be disastrous," Mr. Lone warned.

# What is India's policy on the Rohingya?

## Can refugees who feel threatened in their home nation be deported? What are the government's obligations?

VIJAITA SINGH

**The story so far:** On August 17, Union Housing Minister Hardeep Singh Puri tweeted that Rohingya refugees would be shifted to flats meant for economically weaker sections (EWS), and provided with basic amenities and police protection. The Minister said "India respects & follows the UN Refugee Convention 1951 & provides refuge to all, regardless of their race, religion or creed." The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) under Amit Shah issued a clarification saying that no such direction had been given to provide EWS flats to "Rohingya illegal foreigners".

**Where do the Rohingya live in Delhi?**

■ The Rohingya live in hutments in the densely populated Kalindi Kunj and Madanpur Khadar areas in Delhi which are contiguous with Uttar Pradesh. Officially, about 1,200 Rohingya have been identified as among the first batch to have arrived in Delhi in 2012. After they protested outside the UNHCR (UN Refugee Agency) office in Delhi, they were provided with refugee cards.

**What happened in June last year?**

■ On June 13, 2021 a fire ravaged one of the Rohingya camps at Kanchan Kunj near Kalindi Kunj metro station in south Delhi. The land belonged to the irrigation department of the Uttar Pradesh government. A day before the fire broke out in the hutment, the Rohingya had been served notice by the U.P. irrigation department to vacate the premises. After the incident, the Sub Divisional Magistrate, Sarita Vihar, and Delhi Police made arrangements to move the displaced Rohingya to an empty plot nearby that belonged to the Zakat Foundation of India, an NGO. The Delhi government pitched tents and provided water and electricity. A mobile toilet was also set up. As the Delhi government was incurring an expenditure of ₹7 lakh per month, it was decided at a meeting held by the Delhi chief secretary on July 29 this year, to shift all Rohingya families to EWS flats which were to be designated as a detention centre and would be put under constant police watch. Residents at the camps said that currently the police do a daily roll call but they are free to move anywhere. A police post has been set up near their camp.

**How is the Delhi government involved?**

■ The Foreigners Regional Registration Office (FRRO), responsible for tracking foreigners and their visas, has been requesting space at a new location for the Rohingya from the Delhi government since 2021. The FRRO is under the administrative control of the MHA. On March 19, 2021, FRRO, Delhi, wrote a letter to the Delhi government's home department seeking another location to house the Rohingya. The home department sent a letter to another civic authority, the New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC), on June 23 the same year that the FRRO is constrained to restrict the movement of illegal foreigners and immigrants due to acute paucity of space. The department requested the NDMC chairman to allot a Baraat Ghar along with EWS flats at Bakkarwala village to accommodate the foreign inmates with "basic minimum housing facilities." Earlier, in February 2021, a joint team of the social welfare department and home department of the Delhi government had zeroed in on the EWS flats to designate it as a restriction centre. On July 29, 2022 Delhi chief secretary Naresh Kumar held a meeting to find a "medium to long-term" residential solution for Rohingya refugee families. The minutes say that the Lieutenant Governor of Delhi was apprised of the plan. Since Delhi is a Union Territory, law and order is under the Central government, in this case, the MHA. The AAP has claimed that the elected Ministers of Delhi government were kept out of the loop.

Stateless: Myanmar has classified the Rohingya as 'resident foreigners' or 'associate citizens'. • REUTERS

**When did the Rohingya come to Delhi?**

■ Rohingya, an ethnic group, mostly Muslim, hail from the Rakhine province of west Myanmar, and speak a Bengali dialect. Myanmar has classified them as "resident foreigners" or "associate citizens." They were forced to leave Myanmar in large numbers after several waves of violence, which first began in 2012. The Myanmar army revived the attacks in 2017 and lakhs took shelter in Bangladesh. Around five lakh Rohingya fled to Saudi Arabia in 2012. According to the July 29 minutes of the meeting, the Rohingya first came to Delhi in 2012.

> Human Rights Watch says that since October 2018, India has deported 12 Rohingya to Myanmar. According to the agency, the government denied requests by UNHCR to gain access to the deportees to assess whether the decision was voluntary

**What is the process of deportation?**

■ According to the MHA, illegal immigrants are detected, detained and deported under provisions of the Passport Act, 1920 or the Foreigners Act, 1946. The powers to identify and deport them have also been delegated to State governments and Union Territories. Once a 'foreigner' has been apprehended by the police for staying illegally, without any document, he or she is produced before the local court. If the accused is found guilty, they can be imprisoned for three months to eight years. After completing their sentence, the court orders deportation. The foreign inmates are moved to detention centres till the country of origin verifies and accepts them.

Though there are no separate rules for deportation of the Rohingya, on August 8, 2017, amid fears of fresh exodus of Rohingya from Myanmar, the MHA wrote to all the States that "infiltration from Rakhine State of Myanmar into Indian territory specially in the recent years, besides being [a] burden on the limited resources of the country also aggravates the security challenges posed to the country." It also said the rise in terrorism in the last few decades is a cause for concern in most nations and that illegal migrants are more vulnerable to getting recruited by terrorist organisations.

**Have any Rohingya been deported?**

■ In 2018, seven Rohingya were deported to Myanmar. It was the first time that Myanmar issued a certificate of identity to the seven Rohingya. They had been picked up in Assam in 2012. After they were moved to a detention centre from prison, they wrote to the Myanmar Embassy in 2016, expressing their desire to return to their country and gave an undertaking that they were returning out of their free will. According to advocacy group Human Rights Watch (HRW), since October 2018, India has deported 12 Rohingya to Myanmar, "claiming that they left voluntarily." "However, the government denied repeated requests by UNHCR to gain access to them to independently assess whether the decision was voluntary," HRW said.

In December 2017, the then Minister of State for Home Kiren Rijiju informed Parliament that there are around 40,000 Rohingya in India, of which around 5,700 are in Jammu and also in Telangana, Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Delhi and Rajasthan. Of these, only 16,000 are said to be registered with the UN refugee agency. The MHA claimed that the exact number is not known as many of them enter the country clandestinely. In 2017, the Border Security Force apprehended 87 Rohingya along the Bangladesh border and 76 were pushed back to Bangladesh.

**What is India's stand on refugees?**

■ India is not a signatory to the 1951 UN Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and the 1967 Protocol. All foreign undocumented nationals are governed as per the provisions of The Foreigners Act, 1946, The Registration of Foreigners Act, 1939, The Passport (Entry into India) Act, 1920 and The Citizenship Act, 1955.

The MHA informed Parliament on April 5 that "foreign nationals who enter into the country without valid travel documents are treated as illegal immigrants." In 2016, Mr. Rijiju told the Lok Sabha that "there is no national law on refugees at present. Only Standard Operating Procedures are issued by the MHA to deal with foreign nationals in India, who claim to be refugees."

In some instances, such as in the case of Pakistani Hindus who live in camps in Delhi, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Chhattisgarh, Punjab, and Tibetans and Tamils from Sri Lanka, relief assistance is provided by the Centre that includes monthly cash dole, subsidised ration, clothing materials, utensils, cremation and shradh (last rites) grants and infrastructure facilities in camps. As on December 31, 2014, the number of stateless persons in India was 2,89,394 which included over 10,000 Bangladeshis and 10,000 Sri Lankans.

# How will FIFA's decision affect Indian football?

## Why did the world governing body of the sport take the step? Who is to blame? What lies ahead?

N. SUDARSHAN

**The story so far:** Late on August 15, world football's governing body FIFA suspended the All India Football Federation (AIFF) indefinitely for "undue interference by a third party" in the process to finalise a new constitution and elect office-bearers. The third party in question was the Supreme Court of India-appointed Committee of Administrators (CoA), comprising Justice (retd.) Anil Dave, former Chief Election Commissioner S.Y. Quraishi and former Indian football captain Bhaskar Ganguly, formed in May to temporarily assume charge of AIFF after the previous establishment, led by president Praful Patel, was deemed to have overstayed the National Sports Development Code of India-mandated 12-year tenure. If AIFF's suspension is not revoked in time, India will lose the rights to host the U-17 Women's World Cup in October.

**What constitutes undue interference?**

■ International sports federations like FIFA view any governance structure where an unelected body wields power at a national sports federation like AIFF as third-party interference. In exceptional cases where such a body – in the present case, the CoA – takes charge, it is required to play a temporary, enabling role in line with the statutes of the international body. Ever since the CoA presented the draft constitution to FIFA on July 13, the latter has suggested multiple changes. Chief among them was a repeal of CoA's decision to give players and State associations equal representation (50%) in the electoral college (36 votes each). The Sports Code mandates a minimum of 25% representation for players in decision-making roles. In a letter dated July 25, FIFA said, "Although we agree that the players' voice needs to be heard, we are also of the view that the importance of the existing members of the AIFF should not be undermined. However, we understand the requirements of the Sports Code of India and recommend AIFF to bring in a presence of above 25% of the Eminent Players in the Executive Committee as Co-opted (nominated) Members." FIFA didn't approve of the fact that before the hearing in the Supreme Court on August 3, the CoA didn't revise its equal representation clause. FIFA also took issue with the move to elect an interim body for three months just for the conduct of the World Cup, while the constitution is finalised parallelly. "We understood that the CoA would still play a role within the aforesaid interim mandate," the FIFA letter conveying the suspension said, concluding that this too constituted "undue interference".

No more cheer: The Gokulam Kerala women's team after the Women's I-League 2021-22 win. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

**How did the CoA react?**

■ In a statement put out a day after the suspension, the CoA expressed "surprise and disappointment" that FIFA's decision had come even as extensive discussions were ongoing between FIFA, CoA and the Union Sports Ministry. The CoA said it was agreeable to conduct elections with an electoral college consisting of just 36 State representatives and give players representation as nominated members in the Executive Committee as desired by FIFA. In a separate letter, the CoA also assured FIFA that the interim Executive Committee would function independently and will not be supervised by the former. However, the electoral college published on August 16 – after the FIFA suspension was announced – had as many as 69 members, including 36 players. It is understood that changes to the draft constitution to bring it in line with FIFA recommendations will need the Supreme Court's nod.

**What is the role of the Union Sports Ministry?**

■ After mostly remaining in the background, the Union government, at the hearing on August 17, informed the Supreme Court that it was in discussions with FIFA. "Yesterday the government took it up. We had two meetings with FIFA. There is some breaking of the ice which has taken place," the government said, and asked for more time. The next hearing is scheduled for Monday.

**What are the repercussions of the suspension?**

■ While the biggest threat is to the conduct of the U-17 Women's World Cup, Gokulam Kerala FC not being allowed to play in the ongoing AFC Women's Club Championship in Uzbekistan is the first significant blow. ATK Mohun Bagan's participation in the AFC Cup (September 7) is also in doubt, so are India's scheduled international friendlies against Vietnam and Singapore next month. Developmental funding from FIFA and the Asian Football Confederation will stop. Indian clubs cannot sign foreign players and Indian officials will not be eligible for international assignments.

**Will the court intervention set a precedent for other sports in India?**

■ In 2022 alone, table tennis, hockey and judo have been placed under court-appointed CoAs for not following the Sports Code. A day after AIFF's suspension, the Delhi High Court brought the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) under a CoA, citing the top court's order in the AIFF matter. But the Supreme Court ordered a status quo after the Union government stated that the International Olympic Committee could see the development as "third-party interference". The next hearing is scheduled for Monday.

> The biggest threat is to the U-17 Women's World Cup; Gokulam Kerala FC not being allowed to play in the ongoing AFC Women's Club Championship in Uzbekistan is the first significant blow

**Will it change future sports governance models?**

■ Regardless of the turn each of the above cases take, there is an underlying acceptance in the Indian sports administration fraternity that adherence to the Sports Code is non-negotiable. Whether courts should intervene is a matter for debate. But it is to be noted that both FIFA and FIH (world hockey's governing body) did not object to court-appointed committees. FIFA had a problem only with the terms of reference. FIH, on the other hand, was welcoming and went to the extent of saying, "the order of a court is not an interference."

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NATIONALISM

# A double-edged sword for China's rulers

For Xi Jinping's govt., rising nationalist sentiment is seen as an asset; but left unchecked, it could also turn into a liability for the Party

ILLUSTRATION: R. RAJESH

ANANTH KRISHNAN

On July 28, China's President and Chinese Communist Party General Secretary Xi Jinping visited the Military Museum, a massive Soviet-style complex in west Beijing that abuts the headquarters of the People's Liberation Army (PLA). The PLA, which turned 95 on August 1, was marking the "double anniversaries" – the CPC turned 100 last year – with an expansive tribute to itself.

The message was direct, conveyed in four sprawling exhibits – each focusing on key periods in the PLA's history, from the revolutionary era to its current modernisation in the past decade under Mr. Xi, which received the biggest display, including everything from China's three aircraft carriers to its "carrier-killing" missiles.

For China, which suffered in the early 20th century both internal turmoil and humiliation by outside powers, a strong army was the only guarantor of both stability and national pride. And, the message conveyed, key to ensuring the army remained strong was who, in Mao's words, controlled the gun – the Party and Mr. Xi.

**In Focus**

- Xi, who completes 10 years in office this year and will begin an unprecedented third-term, has since taking over emphasised the "Chinese dream" of "the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation" as a central theme
- The idea of China's "rejuvenation" long predates Xi: Sun Yat-sen, who became the first President of the Republic of China in 1912, founded a "Revive China society" as early as 1894
- In China's more recent history, Xi has, more than his predecessors, emphasised the idea of "revival" and of a "strong country"

### National revival

Mr. Xi, while touring the exhibition, hailed what he called a "historically great achievement" in national defence, and called on the military to make "persistent efforts to provide strategic support for the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation."

Mr. Xi, who completes 10 years in office this year and will begin an unprecedented third-term at a once-in-five-year Party Congress likely in October, has since taking over emphasised the "Chinese dream" ("*zhongguo meng*") of "the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation" as a central theme.

To be sure, the idea of China's "rejuvenation" long predates Mr. Xi. Indeed, even Sun Yat-sen, who became the first President of the Republic of China in 1912, founded a "Revive China society" as early as 1894.

**The Party has, under Xi, declared a third "new era", turning the page from the Deng Xiaoping era (which followed the first Mao era) where the emphasis was not on showing strength**

In China's more recent history, however, Mr. Xi has, more than his predecessors, emphasised the idea of "revival" and of a "strong country" ("*giangguo*"). The Party has, under Mr. Xi, declared a third "new era", turning the page from the Deng Xiaoping era (which followed the first Mao era) where the emphasis was not on showing strength but as Deng famously put it, "biding time" and "hiding strength".

There is a reason for this shift. After three decades of a focus on economic growth, Mr. Xi and the Party leadership believed they needed to address a sense of drift and a widening chasm between the Party and the people, with Communism and Maoism fading as an ideological tether. Searching for a new binding glue, Mr. Xi has settled on "rejuvenation", which is essentially an appeal to nationalist sentiment.

### Asset and liability

Nationalism, for the Party, has certainly emerged as a powerful asset, a theme carefully nurtured by State propaganda that relentlessly portrays the Party as the defender of Chinese pride in the face of an unceasing onslaught from "hostile foreign forces" in all directions.

An example of how this messaging appealed to younger Chinese is the launch of an app that became the country's most widely used in 2019, called 'Study to build a powerful country' (Or "*xuexi qiangguo*", which, intentionally, can alternatively be read as "study from Xi, build a powerful country"). Users on the app, which provides a one-stop shop for news about Mr. Xi's political doctrine (officially called 'Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era') and on the country's achievements, can earn points depending on how much time they spend on it and in their participation on its quizzes. Party members are required to use the app, which the Hong Kong-based *South China Morning Post* described as "the party's most successful propaganda effort to date"

On the other side of this effort are increasingly frequent outpourings of anger at China's adversaries. In 2012, Japan's move to nationalise the disputed Senkaku or Diaoyu islands triggered street protests, which initially appeared to be blessed by the state in a country where protests are usually not tolerated, but then briefly seemed to get out of hand as protesters vandalised Japanese car showrooms.

Protesters in front of the Japanese Embassy in Beijing marched with photos of Mao, in what was then seen as a subtle dig at the then Hu Jintao administration for its perceived weakness. In 2017, it was the turn of South Korea, as mass boycotts targeted Lotte stores in China after South Korea agreed to host the American THAAD missile defence system.

Of more recent vintage was last year's mass targeting of retailer H&M, which was essentially disappeared from the Internet in China and taken off major e-commerce sites such as Alibaba, after it said would stop buying cotton from Xinjiang amid allegations of forced labour. The cancelling of H&M was so widespread that it was even taken off car-hailing apps so it became impossible to book a ride to any of its stores.

Even China's own retailers haven't been spared: just this month, the Miniso Group tended a public apology for styling itself as a Japanese-inspired brand after describing a doll as a "Japanese geisha doll" when it was wearing a traditional Chinese dress, leading to an outpouring of online anger. The company said it is now removing all Japanese elements from its stores and "correcting its wrong path".

If the Party has seen nurturing this sentiment as an asset, it can, however, quickly turn into a liability. Indeed, the very week of Mr. Xi's museum visit served a reminder of the double-edged sword of nationalist feelings, when the Chinese government came under fire from social media users after its public warnings failed to deter U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi from visiting Taiwan on August 2.

Leading the charge against Ms. Pelosi was Hu Xijin, the firebrand former editor of the nationalist tabloid *Global Times* – a paper that has on occasion become a headache even for China's diplomats by setting an expectation that is almost impossible, so much so that the Foreign Ministry has been said to have received calcium pills in the post from the paper's readers (a message to grow a backbone, and one they seem to have heeded in the Xi era's pushing of what's been called "wolf warrior diplomacy").

"If U.S. fighter jets escort Pelosi's plane into Taiwan, it is...invasion," he said, adding that the Chinese military "has the right to forcibly dispel Pelosi's plane and the U.S. fighter jets, including firing warning shots and making tactical movement of obstruction." "If ineffective," he added, "then shoot them down." China's military, of course, did not, leading to uncomfortable questions for the government if its actions were weaker than its words. Mr. Hu subsequently deleted the post.

### The question of dissent

Another consequence of the wave of nationalism is that anyone who questions it is very quickly swept under its tide. Dissent is seen as being not just against the Party but against the nation, as the writer Fang Fang discovered during the early days of the pandemic in Wuhan, from where her accounts of the early chaos became widely read. She was subsequently denounced as a traitor as China emerged from the pandemic and avoided a national second wave – a success that its leadership is still trumpeting as evidence of the superiority of the Chinese model. Criticism of the current "dynamic zero-COVID" strategy is similarly seen as not just debating public health strategies but as being against the nation. "Shave your head or kill yourself to atone for your sins", said one poster in Wuhan station directed at Fang Fang, according to a photo that went viral, while she was relentlessly attacked online.

Questioning the military is particularly sensitive, as the investigative journalist and blogger Qiu Ziming found when he questioned China's delay in announcing that it had, some eight months after the June 15, 2020 Galwan Valley clash, lost four soldiers. After questioning the number of casualties as being implausibly low, he was jailed for "defaming heroes and martyrs" under a new defamation law.

Chinese military's unprecedented drills surrounding Taiwan in the wake of the Pelosi visit were widely seen as being aimed at the island. In fact, they were as much directed at the audience at home. China's Foreign Ministry said as much, as it slammed the West – and the G7 group – for criticising its military response. "They clearly believe they live in the time of 120 years ago," she said, comparing the G7 to the eight-nation alliance that invaded China in 1900.

"We no longer live in a world where Imperialist powers can ride roughshod over Chinese people on Chinese land. Today's China," she added, is not the old China of 100 years ago that was humiliated and bullied."

ZAPORIZHZHIA

# The nuclear frontline

Europe's largest nuclear plant has been caught in Russia's Ukraine war

G. SAMPATH

Ukraine has already endured one of the worst disasters in the history of nuclear energy – the accident at the Chernobyl plant in 1986. Less than four decades later, nuclear alarm bells are ringing again in the region – this time over the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power station in southern Ukraine.

The Zaporizhzhia plant was built by the Soviet Union in the early 1980s. Its six water-cooled reactors occupy half a square mile on the banks of the Dnieper River near the town of Enerhodar. With a capacity of 5,700 MW, it is Europe's largest nuclear plant. Until the Russian invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, it used to supply one-fifth of the country's electricity.

Soon after Russian President Vladimir Putin launched his 'special military operation', on March 4, Russian forces took over the plant. It continued to be operated by Ukrainian staff, but under the supervision of executives from Rosatom, Russia's state-owned atomic energy corporation. While things were initially quiet, recent weeks have seen the war spill over into the premises of the plant, raising the spectre of yet another nuclear disaster.

Ukraine and the U.S. have accused Russia of using the Zaporizhzhia plant as a 'nuclear shield' to launch attacks. Russia has about 500 soldiers and more than 50 pieces of military hardware in the plant complex. But it has denied launching attacks from the plant, and accused Ukraine of shelling the plant with the aim of causing a nuclear incident that could then be pinned on Russia. In fact, on August 18, Russia's Defence Ministry claimed that Kyiv was planning a "provocation" at the plant during UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres's visit to Ukraine.

Earlier, on August 5, the plant suffered severe shelling that damaged an electrical switchboard, leading to a power shutdown. Rafael Grossi, the head of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), warned that "the situation is very fragile" and tried to organise an IAEA mission to Zaporizhzhia to inspect the safety status of the plant. Such a visit would need the concurrence of both Russia and Ukraine. But Ukraine was quick to block the visit, refusing permission on the grounds that allowing the IAEA into the Russian-held plant would be akin to acknowledging, if not legitimising, Russian sovereignty over the nuclear plant.

### Shifting narratives

Subsequently, the Ukrainian line in the war of narratives over who is responsible for dragging a nuclear plant into the war began to shift. From accusing Russia of using the plant as a 'nuclear shield', Ukraine now claims that Russia is purposely launching attacks on the nuclear plant. The purpose of these dangerous attacks, Ukraine claims, is to target the transmission infrastructure so that Zaporizhzhia is severed from the Ukrainian grid, the larger plan being to connect it to the grid for Crimea instead.

Although the plant has come under periodic shelling, experts believe the risk posed by targeted shelling of the reactors is minimal. Unlike the Chernobyl reactor that exploded, the Zaporizhzhia reactors are encased in concrete that's nearly 10 metres thick, making damage from shelling unlikely. Experts point to two likely accident scenarios – a reactor meltdown caused by damage to the cooling systems, and leakage of radioactive material due to an attack on spent fuel storage sites. In either case, the fallout would be localised, and limited to a maximum of 30-km radius.

Given that even in a worst-case scenario, the effects of an accident would not be felt beyond the war zone, what explains the tendency, on either side, to play up the nuclear risks? For the Russians, it could serve two ends: to try and discourage the West from feeding the Ukrainian war effort with military aid, and at the same time, keep up domestic support for the war. For Ukraine, the discourse of a nuclear scare is another opportunity to garner sympathy from the global community and put further pressure on Russia.

From Chernobyl to Three Mile Island and Fukushima, nuclear disasters have all been in peacetime. It is rare for a nuclear plant to be caught in a war zone. And yet, shutting down a nuclear reactor is not easy either. At the same, with Ukrainian staffers fleeing the plant at every opportunity, and new recruits hard to come by, it is becoming difficult for Russia to keep the plant running, and running safely.

WILLIAM RUTO

# From chicken seller to President

Kenya's new ruler has to first overcome the legal challenges to his election

ILLUSTRATION: SREEJITH R. KUMAR

STANLY JOHNY

In the 2007 Kenyan Presidential election, William Ruto had supported the opposition candidate, Raila Odinga, against the incumbent, Mwai Kibaki. Uhuru Kenyatta, the son of Kenya's founding father Jomo Kenyatta and a former political ally of Mr. Ruto, had backed Kibaki, who was from his own ethnic group Kikuyu. Kibaki was declared winner, but Mr. Odinga refused to concede, which led to large-scale violence.

Mr. Kenyatta and Mr. Ruto, whose Kalenjin ethnic group, the third biggest in Kenya, had backed Mr. Odinga, stood in opposing camps during the clashes in which some 1,200 people were killed. Both Mr. Kenyatta and Mr. Ruto were accused of crimes against humanity and cases filed against them in the International Criminal Court (ICC) in The Hague. But in the next election, in 2013, Mr. Ruto joined hands with Mr. Kenyatta as his running mate against Mr. Odinga, who lost again.

Cut to the present. In the run-up to the August 9 presidential election, the outgoing President Kenyatta was campaigning across the country for the opposition leader Mr. Odinga against his Vice-President Ruto. When the results were announced, Mr. Ruto secured a narrow victory against Mr. Odinga. That's Kenyan politics for the beginners.

Mr. Ruto's rise to the top office in Kenya has never been easy. As a teenager, he used to sell chickens and nuts to truckers in the highways of Kenya's Rift Valley. He went to school barefoot and tended cows and helped till field on a family plot for farming. Now a wealthy businessman whose fortunes multiplied when he was in government, Mr. Ruto, 55, recalled his humble childhood during campaigns recently.

### Joining politics

His entry into politics coincided with Kenya's transition to multiparty democracy. In 1992, the year Kenya saw the first multiparty elections, Mr. Ruto joined the then dominant KANU party, led by President Daniel arap Moi. Moi, who succeeded Jomo Kenyatta in 1978 and went on to become the longest serving President of the country, picked his old comrade's son Uhuru Kenyatta as his successor. Mr. Ruto's job was to work for Mr. Kenyatta's victory in the 2002 elections. But Mr. Kenyatta lost the election to Kibaki. Subsequently, Mr. Ruto would fall out with Mr. Kenyatta and leave KANU.

What brought them together in 2013 were the ICC cases. Mr. Kenyatta was elected President and Mr. Ruto became his deputy. They denied any role in the 2007-08 violence and blasted the court for its interference in Kenya. The cases collapsed in 2016 as witnesses either recanted or disappeared. After their re-election in 2017, the President and Vice-President fell out again. Mr. Ruto continued as Vice-President even when he said he and President Kenyatta looked at politics differently, while the President's supporters accused him of insubordination.

During this year's election campaign, many had cast doubt on Mr. Ruto's prospects as President Kenyatta, whose Kikuyu is the largest ethnic group in the country, had publicly disowned him. But Mr. Ruto, the undisputed leader of the Kalenjins, reached out to other ethnicities, including the Kikuyus. He ran a Kenya *Kwanza* (Kenya First) campaign, focusing on the youth and promising economic growth and job opportunities. He called himself a champion of Kenya's "hustler nation".

Election results show that he managed to bury his controversial past that saw allegations of both corruption and violence, and strike a chord with the voters across the ethnic barriers. According to the Election Commission chair, Mr. Ruto polled 50.49% of votes, against Mr. Odinga's 48.85%.

But the road ahead is going to be bumpy for this former chicken seller from the Rift Valley. His first challenge is to consolidate his authority in the face of political challenges and social divisions. While the chief election commissioner declared him winner, a majority of Election Commission members refused to sign off the results. Supporters of Mr. Odinga say the counting was hacked. Mr. Odinga has refused to accept the results and has vowed to challenge it using every legal means. The crisis has obviously revived the dark memories of the 2007 clashes. And even if Mr. Ruto overcomes the political challenges and forms a stable government, a taller task before him is to walk the talk on economic growth and employment.

## Greece's EU scrutiny exit ends 12 years of pain: PM

REUTERS
ATHENS

Greece's exit on Saturday from the European Union's so-called enhanced surveillance framework for its economy ends 12 years of pain and allows the country greater freedom in policy making, Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis said.

Greece's economic performance and policies have been closely monitored under the framework since 2018 to ensure it implemented reforms promised under three international bailouts – totalling more than €260 billion – from the EU and the International Monetary Fund between 2010 and 2015.

EU officials had confirmed Saturday's exit earlier this month, saying Athens had delivered on the bulk of its commitments.

"A 12-year cycle that brought pain to citizens now closes," Mr. Mitsotakis said in a statement. "Exiting the enhanced surveillance framework means greater national leeway in our economic choices."

Greece was hit with waves of pension cuts, spending constraints, tax increases and bank controls after it was forced to seek its first bailout in 2010. The economy shrank 25% during the bailouts.

Since exiting them in 2018, the country has relied solely on the markets for its financing needs.

# China's Russia coal imports hit 5-year high

### China buys discounted coal while Western countries shun Russian cargoes over its Ukraine invasion

REUTERS
SINGAPORE

China's coal imports from Russia jumped 14% in July from a year earlier to their highest in at least five years, as China bought discounted coal while Western countries shunned Russian cargoes over its invasion of Ukraine.

China brought in 7.42 million tonnes of coal from Russia last month, data from the General Administration of Customs showed on Saturday. That was the highest monthly figure since comparable statistics began in 2017, up from 6.12 million tonnes in June and 6.49 million tonnes in July 2021.

Western countries were avoiding cargoes from Russia ahead of a European Union ban on Russian coal that came into force on Aug. 11, aimed at reducing the Kremlin's energy revenue.

**Fuel appetite:** China bought 7.42 million tonnes of Russian coal last month, the most in a month since 2017. •REUTERS

The ban has forced Russia to target buyers such as China and India and sell at a steep discount.

Russian thermal coal with a heating value of 5,500 kilocalories (kcal) traded around $150 a tonne on a cost-and-freight basis in late July, while coal of the same quality at Australia's Newcastle port was assessed at more than $210 a tonne on a free-on-board (FOB) basis.

**Top oil supplier**

Russia also held its spot as China's top supplier of crude oil for a third month in July, separate data showed on Saturday, as independent refiners stepped up purchases of discounted supplies while cutting shipments from suppliers like Angola and Brazil.

Imports of Russian oil, including supplies pumped via the East Siberia Pacific Ocean pipeline and seaborne shipments, totalled 7.15 million tonnes, up 7.6% from a year earlier, China's Customs data showed.

Still, Russian supplies in July, equivalent to about 1.68 million barrels per day (bpd), were below May's record of about 2 million bpd. China is Russia's largest oil purchaser of oil.

**Coal outlook**

Some Chinese traders expect more Russian coal to flow into China in the fourth quarter when utilities in northern China build stocks for the winter heating season.

July shipments of Indonesian coal, mostly cheap, low-quality thermal coal with a heating value below 3,800 kcal, were 11.7 million tonnes. That was up 22% from June but down 40% from a year earlier. China has cut its overall coal imports in recent months amid surging domestic output.

Power plants in southern China have increased tenders to buy Indonesian coal in August as it is cheaper than domestic coal, while demand for coal-fired power generation has been boosted by a record heat wave.

Indonesian thermal coal with a heating value at 3,800 kcal was at about $78 a tonne FOB last week, which would still be below about $101 for local coal, with shipping.

## L&T commissions green hydrogen plant at Hazira

### Firm in talks to supply gas to refineries

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
HAZIRA

Engineering and construction firm Larsen & Toubro, which commissioned its first green hydrogen plant at its complex here in Gujarat, is in talks with a dozen companies for setting up similar units, a company official said on Saturday.

As part of its environmental, social, and governance (ESG) commitments, L&T is planning to achieve water neutrality by 2035 and carbon neutrality by 2040, making green hydrogen an integral part of its clean fuel adoption policy.

In order to supply green hydrogen, the company is in talks with major refineries both in the government and private sectors. The firm is also in touch with a dozen companies, operating in the steel and cement space, and refineries for setting up similar hydrogen plants, a senior company official said.

"We decided to set up this green hydrogen plant... and use that hydrogen as blended source of energy for our industrial facility here in Hazira," the company's whole-time director and senior EVP (Energy) Subramanian Sarma said.

## Japan's Lixil eyes sales of ₹1,000 crore over 3 years

### A.P. ceramic unit capacity may double

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

Japan-based building materials and housing equipment maker Lixil Corporation is aiming for ₹1,000 crore worth of sales in India in the next three years, a senior company official said on Saturday.

Lixil operates in India through its brands Grohe in the luxury and premium bathroom fitting segment and American Standard in the comparatively smaller segments.

For Lixil, India is one of the fastest-growing markets following Japan, the U.S. and China and it would continue to invest here for expansion, said Lixil Water Technology – India & Subcontinent Leader Bobby Joseph. "A lot of investment is coming, what we believe is for next 5 years and 10 years, ahead of time. It (India) is among the top four markets where Lixil is investing," Mr. Joseph told PTI.

As to where the invested funds would be used, he said Lixil may double the capacity of its ceramic plant in Vijayawada from one million units to two million.

## Paytm doesn't influence share price, says CEO

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

Digital payments company One97 Communications Limited, which operates under the Paytm brand, does not influence the price at which its stock trades but the management is making efforts to make the firm profitable, MD and CEO Vijay Shekhar Sharma is said to have told shareholders.

Speaking at the company's annual general meeting, he reportedly said till 2018-19, the firm was in expansion mode and entered into monetisation mode from 2019-20, according to participants who attended the meeting. Mr. Sharma was cited as saying that as committed, Paytm would log operational profit in the September 2023 quarter.

# Indian Terrain Fashions eyes doubling exclusive stores: MD

### Firm aims to capture growth opportunity in organised retail

N. ANAND
CHENNAI

Chennai-based men's and boy's wear clothing firm, Indian Terrain Fashions Ltd., (ITFL) plans to almost double the number of exclusive brand outlets (EBO) to 400 by FY25, MD and CEO Charath Ram Narsimhan said.

"As a part of the longer-term plan to capture growth opportunity in the organised retail space, we are planning to take the number of EBOs to 400, most of them in tier-II and tier-III cities," he said in an interview.

About 60% of the new outlets would be owned by franchisees and rest by the company. Hence, it would not require a huge outgo of funds, he added.

Charath Ram Narsimhan

Besides, ITFL was exploring the possibility of entering girl's wear segment. During FY22, ITFL had posted a revenue of ₹336 crore against ₹213 crore in FY21.

"The company would have done better if not for the COVID-led lockdown in Q1 of FY22," said Vidyuth Venkatesh Rajagopal, JMD.

ITFL has planned to achieve a turnover of ₹500 crore by March 2025. This would be done by rapidly expanding the reach of boy's-wear segment, brand building and brand positioning with new apparel offerings, increasing footprint across small towns, cities and geographies in India and enhancing and improving retail and online presence, he added.

ITFL had earlier decided to focus on the areas of direct-to-consumer retail, sustainability and expansion into the hinterland for growing its business .

"Despite all the challenges, we have made progress in all the areas," chairman Venkatesh Rajagopal said.

## Adani to make open offer for ACC, Ambuja

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

The Adani Group is likely to make an open offer worth ₹31,000 crore next week to acquire 26% stake each in Swiss firm Holcim's two Indian-listed entities Ambuja Cements and ACC, from public shareholders.

In May, the Adani Group announced that it had clinched a deal to acquire a controlling stake in Holcim Ltd.'s businesses in India for $10.5 billion. Markets regulator SEBI granted approval for the open offer this week.

As per the revised schedule, tendering of the shares in the open offer would start from August 26 as against the earlier date of July 6. This would end on September 9.

Bhagat and Kadam. •SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

## Gold rush by para shuttlers

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

Pramod Bhagat and Sukant Kadam claimed the gold beating Indonesia's Dwiyoko Dwiyoko and Fredy Setiawan 21-18, 21-13 in the men's doubles final (SL3-SL4 category) of the Thailand Para badminton international tournament in Pattaya on Saturday.

In men's singles, Bhagat and Kadam finished with a silver each after losing their respective finals.

In women's singles, Mandeep Kaur beat compatriot Manasi 20-22, 21-19, 21-14 in the SL3 final, while Manisha Ramadass also bagged the yellow metal beating Japan's Kaede Kameyama 20-22, 21-12, 21-19 in the SU5 final. Nithya Sri Sumathy Sivan won the gold with a 21-9, 24-22 win over England's Rachel Choong in the SH6 final.

# Gowtham, Hoover deliver for Strikers

### The two help Shivamogga cruise past Mangalore

MAHARAJA TROPHY

SPORTS REPORTER
BENGALURU

K. Gowtham (72, 32b, 7x4, 4x6) and Stalin Hoover (53 n.o., 35b, 3x4, 4x6) powered Shivamogga Strikers to a comfortable eight-wicket win over Mangalore United in the Maharaja Trophy KSCA T20 at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium here on Saturday. Chasing 137, Strikers cruised home with 7.4 overs to spare.

Gowtham and Hoover put on 129 for the second wicket to shut United out of the contest.

Batting first, Mangalore lost wickets regularly, with only Nikin Jose (38) and Abhinav Manohar (36) making contributions. Gowtham, K.C. Cariappa and D. Avinash picked up two wickets each for Shivamogga.

In response, Strikers lost opener B.R. Sharath in the first over. Hoover and Gowtham first absorbed the pressure and then cut loose. The duo dealt in boundaries, targetting the mid-wicket and long-on regions for big hits. The duo's exploits took Shivamogga to 68 for one at the end of the PowerPlay.

**Going ballistic:** Gowtham's 32-ball 72 contained seven fours and four sixes. •SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Gowtham was dismissed five runs short of the target, while Hoover stayed unbeaten.

In another outing, Bengaluru Blasters took out Mysuru Warriors by 23 runs.

**The scores:**

Mangalore United 136/8 in 20 overs (Nikin Jose 38, Abhinav Manohar 36) lost to Shivamogga Strikers 137/2 in 12.2 overs (K. Gowtham 72, Stalin Hoover 53 n.o.).

Bengaluru Blasters 157/6 in 20 overs (L.R. Chethan 29, Mayank Agarwal 31, J. Suchith 40, Shreyas Gopal 3/19) bt Mysuru Warriors 134/9 in 20 overs (Shreyas Gopal 50, Rishi Bopanna 3/31).

## BENGALURU ROUND-UP

**Wolves hunt down Falcons, run into Bulls in final**

KGF Wolves routed Malnad Falcons in its last league tie to earn the maximum eight points and ensure a place in the final of the Grand Prix Badminton League, being played at the KBA courts on Saturday.

In the summit clash, Wolves will meet Mandya Bulls, which defeated Mangalore Sharks 6-3.

**The results: KGF Wolves bt Malnad Falcons 8-(-1)** [Gloria Vinayakumar bt Jahnavi Shetty 15-7, 15-2; Hemanth M. Gowda & Prakash Raj bt Mithun Manjunath & Pruthvi K. Roy 8-15, 15-12, 13-15; Naren S. Iyer bt Shamanth Rao Kidiyoor 9-15, 15-14, 15-13; V. Suhas & P. Amurtha bt Aravind Kongara & Jahnavi 15-8, 15-8; Hemanth & Prakash & Suhas (Trump) bt Mithun & Pruthvi & Shamanth (Trump) 21-14].

**Mandya Bulls bt Mangalore Sharks 6-3** [Ananya Praveen bt Vijetha Harish 15-10, 9-15, 15-12; Ashith Surya & Sai Pratheek & Kushal Raj & C. Sachin 15-6, 15-8; Anirudh Deshpande lost to Raghu Mariswamy (Trump) 11-15, 12-15; K. Karthikey & Ruth Misha Vinod lost to H.N. Shashank & Vijetha 14-15, 15-12, 7-15; Ashith Surya & Sai Prateek & M. Madhusudan (Trump) bt Sachin & Raghu & Kushal 22-20].

**Shravan on song for FUCC (1)**

Shravan S. Babu top-scored with 150 as FUCC (I) thrashed Rajajinagar Cricketers 136 runs in the KSCA (Group I) under-19 inter-club tournament.

**The scores:**

FUCC (1) 309/8 in 50 overs (Shravan S.Babu 150, Ravi Kairav Reddy 52, V. Saatwik 34 n.o., Shashank Kiran 4/65) bt Rajajinagar Cricketers 173 in 49.4 overs (R. Vivek 38, Shrutan V.Shetty 45, Arjun S.Kumar 3/37, Ronith Iyengar 3/38).

BUCC (1) 305/6 in 50 overs (A. Yuvraj 131, Abhishek R.Shenoy 35, Rishikesh 56) bt Mount Joy CC 277 in 48.2 overs (K. Sudhanva 45, Varun P. Annadani 82, T.P. Poovanna 54, Atharv Shukla 4/49, K. Vinith 3/42).

Century Cricketers 280/3 in 50 overs (Rishab Krish 127, Syon Satvik 101 n.o.) bt Cavaliers CC 158 in 38 overs (S. Hanumanthraju 32, Pranav R. Belur 28).

Bangalore SC 224/9 in 50 overs (R.V. Rohit 73, Babu Gaddam 3/40, Gitesh Kumar Rathee 3/31) lost to Jolly Cricketers 225/9 in 49.5 overs (Samith Prabhu 79, Arnav Mishra 77, S. Vinay Radha 4/34).

Visweswarapuram CC (2) 189 in 46.3 overs (Abhinav Kapsi 45, Huzaifa M.Bagi 56, Aarush Sachin Kadam 31, C. Tarun 4/34) lost to Mount Joy CC (U-19) 190/2 in 25.4 overs (R. Suhas 81, K. Sudhanva 64).

Vikram CC 86 in 23.5 overs (J.A. Pranav Preetham 28, Aaryan Santosh 4/15, V. Chandan Chavan 4/8) lost to Wilson Garden CC 87/3 in 20.3 overs (Raghuveer Rajpurohit 29, R. Lohith 3/36).

Vijaya CC 365/2 in 50 overs (Prakar Chaturvedi 142, P. Dhruv 171 n.o.) bt Dooravani Cricketers (1) 229 in 49.3 overs (Saharsh M.Reddy 78, M. Shivu 34, Rohan Kumar 35 n.o., Arjun Nair 4/26).

The Bangalore Cricketers 217 in 47.2 overs (D.S. Bhushan 25, Vishesh Navin Reddy 29, Aarya N.Muddu 43, Nitesh 43, Susheel R.Udupi 3/41) bt Hammonds CC 182 in 49.3 overs (Sachith Shenoy Konchady 28, M.A. Tejas Krishnan 56 n.o.).

**Senior women's cricket trials on Aug. 29**

Open selection trials will be held on August 29 at the KSCA-B ground to pick three/four teams to participate in the selection matches for senior women during the second or third week of September in Bengaluru. Those born on or after September 1, 2006 are eligible. Those interested are requested to assemble at 9 a.m. on the aforementioned date in cricketing attire.

**KSFA women's Super Division from today**

Karnataka State Football Association's women's Super Division league 2022-23 will kick off on August 21.

Besides three-time defending champion Kickstart FC Karnataka, Misaka United FC, Kemp FC, Maatrupratishtana FC, Parikrma FC, Rebels Women's FC, Modern Girls FC, Pink Panthers FC and Roots FC will be participating in this edition. The competition will be played on a single-leg round-robin format, giving each team a minimum of eight games.

**Primrose pips BYCA-B**

Primrose HC edged BYCA-B 7-5 in the DS Murthy & Radha Murthy Memorial hockey tournament on Saturday.

**Other results:**

Warriors Sports Club bt Sunday Boys-B 10-3; JFHA-A bt Leo's SC-B 13-1; Decathlon HC bt Sunday Boys-B 11-1; Falcon HC bt Primrose HC 10-0; JFHA-A bt Warriors SC 9-2; Decathlon HC bt Leo's SC 11-1; BCYA-B drew with Anglo Indian HC 7-7.

**Khalin Joshi wins Tata Steel PGTI Players' Championship**

Bengaluru's Khalin Joshi edged overnight leader Arjun Sharma of Greater Noida to emerge the champion of the Tata Steel PGTI Players' Championship in Coimbatore on Saturday.

On a course he had last played 12 years back, Joshi broke free on the front-nine. He had had a spectacular back-nine and finished with an aggregate of 14-under 274, a new course record.

"The key to winning is staying patient.

" I believed in myself," said Joshi, who won ₹7.5 lakh.

## LIVE TELECAST

**Durand Cup:** Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Voot Select, 3 & 6 p.m.
**KSCA Maharaja T20:** Star Sports 2 (SD & HD) & FanCode, 3 & 7 p.m.
**Premier League:** SS Select 1 & 2 (SD & HD) & Star Sports 3 & Hotstar, 6.30 & 9 p.m.
**Grand Prix Badminton League:** Eurosport (SD & HD), 7 p.m.
**Ultimate Kho Kho:** Sony Ten 1 & 3 (SD & HD) & Sony LIV, 7.30 & 8.45 p.m.
**West Indies vs New Zealand:** 3rd ODI, FanCode, 11.30 p.m.

## Varun making waves

Varun. •SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

SPORTS REPORTER
BENGALURU

Bottolanda Varun Muthappa racked up a slew of titles, winning four golf tournaments conducted in the city.

Varun won the N.A. Muthanna memorial par competition at the Karnataka Golf Association (KGA) on July 29 (main category, +5). Varun then won the P.G. Gurjer Memorial Trophy on July 31 edging out Ruhan Bajaj in sudden death and the 75th Independence Shield Open at Bangalore Golf Club (par competition) by a two-shot margin.

In the Independence Trophy Stableford Tournament at KGA recently, the 18-year-old shot a six-under 66 to record 42 Stableford points. Varun, the leading amateur in South Zone, is coached and mentored by Tarun Sardesai at The Zion in Kolar.

## Scramjet obliges in Belmont Prince Plate

**HYDERABAD:** Trainer K.S.V. Prasad Raju's Scramjet, ridden by P. Sai Kumar, won the Belmont Prince Plate, in a tight finish from Knight Templar, the feature event of Saturday's (Aug. 20) races here. The winner is owned by United Racing and Bloodstock Breeders Ltd. Trainer R.H. Sequeira and jockey Akshay Kumar won three races on the day.

**1. RED RUM PLATE** (1,200m), (Terms) Unraced Maiden, 3-y-o only (Cat. II): **ELUSIVE** (Akshay Kumar) 1, Strauss (Suraj Narredu) 2, Temptations (Ajeeth Kumar) 3 and Life's Living (Kiran Naidu) 4. 1/2, 4-3/4 and 4-1/4. 1m, 13.59s. ₹15 (w), 12, 12 and 12 (p). SHP: 30, THP: 34, SHW: 13 and 17, FP: 39, Q: 23, Tanala: 73. Favourite: Elusive. Owner: Mr. Arun Alagappan Racing LLP. Trainer: R.H. Sequeira.

**2. HIMAYAT SAGAR CUP (DIV. II)** (1,100m), rated 20 to 45 (Cat. III): **BRIAR RIDGE** (Santosh Raj) 1, Theo's Choice (P. Sai Kumar) 2, Malibu (Akshay Kumar) 3 and Akash (P. Gaddam) 4. 2-1/2, Sh and 3. 1m, 7.06s. ₹34 (w), 14, 19 and 12 (p). SHP: 77, THP: 49, SHW: 20 and 51, FP: 390, Q: 260, Tanala: 766. Favourite: Malibu.

Owners: Mr. Teegala Vijender Reddy & Mr. Harinath Reddy Teegala. Trainer: K.S.V. Prasad Raju.

**3. KARIMNAGAR PLATE** (1,400m), rated 20 to 45 (Cat. III): **PLEROMA** (Akshay Kumar) 1, Southern Act (Md. Ismail) 2, Best Buddy (R.S. Jodha) 3 and Stag's Leap (Suraj Narredu) 4. 4, 2 and 2-1/2. 1m, 26.76s. ₹19 (w), 12, 22 and 14 (p). SHP: 84, THP: 46, SHW: 13 and 75, FP: 135, Q: 125, Tanala: 599. Favourite: Pleroma.

Owner: Mr. C. Aryama Sundaram. Trainer: R.H. Sequeira.

**4. RANI RUDRAMA DEVI CUP** (1,600m), rated 40 to 65 (Cat. II): **N R I INFINITY** (B.R. Kumar) 1, Icicle (Suraj Narredu) 2, Show Me Your Walk (Akshay Kumar) 3 and Painted Apache (Ajeeth Kumar) 4. 3-1/4, 1/2 and 1/2. 1m, 38.93s. ₹151 (w), 26, 11 and 22 (p). SHP: 34, THP: 58, SHW: 29 and 16, FP: 412, Q: 138, Tanala: 2,802. Favourite: Icicle.

Owner: Mr. Ravinder Reddy Male. Trainer: G. Shashikant.

**5. BELMONT PRINCE PLATE** (1,600m), rated 80 and above (Cat. I): **SCRAMJET** (P. Sai Kumar) 1, Knight Templar (Akshay Kumar) 2, Premier Action (Afroz Khan) 3 and Top Secret (D.S. Deora) 4. Hd, 3-1/4 and 3/4. 1m, 39.16s. ₹17 (w), 12 and 19 (p). SHP: 27, THP: 31, SHW: 13 and 15, FP: 44, Q: 28, Tanala: 159. Favourite: Scramjet.

Owner: United Racing and Bloodstock Breeders Ltd. Trainer: K.S.V. Prasad Raju.

**6. GRAND PARADE PLATE** (1,400m), Maiden, 3-y-o & upward, rated 20 to 45 (Cat. III): **TURNING WHEEL** (Akshay Kumar) 1, Dream Station (Abhay Singh) 2, Cash Register (Ajeeth Kumar) 3 and Ashwa Migsun (Mukesh Kumar) 4. 3-1/4, Nk and 1. 1m 26. 55s. ₹47 9w), 15, 18 and 30 (p). SHP: 46, THP: 82, SHW: 27 and 24, FP: 270, Q: 137, Tanala: 1,661. Favourite: Doe A Dear.

Owner: Mr. S. Pathy. Trainer: R.H. Sequeira.

Jackpot: 70%: ₹7,408 (45 tkts.) and 30%: 450 (317 tkts.).

Mini Jackpot: 2,087 (42 tkts.).

Treble: (i) 145 (331 tkts.), (ii) 1,690 (35 tkts.).

# Shardul and Samson seal series victory

## Former claims three while the latter guides the Men in Blue home; the visitors take a 2-0 lead

**Swinging away:** Samson had a memorable outing as he pouched three catches and scored an unbeaten 43. • AP

### SCOREBOARD

**ZIMBABWE**

Takudzwanashe Kaitano c Samson b Siraj 7 *(32b)*, Innocent Kaia c Samson b Shardul 16 *(27b, 2x4)*, Wessly Madhevere c Samson b Prasidh 2 *(12b)*, Regis Chakabva c Gill b Shardul 2 *(5b)*, Sikandar Raza c Kishan b Kuldeep 16 *(31b)*, Sean Williams c Dhawan b Hooda 42 *(42b, 3x4, 1x6)*, Ryan Burl (not out) 39 *(47b, 3x4, 1x6)*, Luke Jongwe b Shardul 6 *(16b, 1x4)*, Brad Evans b Axar 9 *(13b, 1x4)*, Victor Nyauchi run out 0 *(0b)*, Tanaka Chivanga run out 4 *(4b, 1x4)*; Extras (lb-4, w-14): 18; Total (in 38.1 overs): 161.

**FALL OF WICKETS**

1-20 (Kaitano, 8.4 overs), 2-27 (Kaia, 11.1), 3-29 (Chakabva, 11.6), 4-31 (Madhevere, 12.4), 5-72 (Raza, 20.6), 6-105 (Williams, 27.6), 7-129 (Jongwe, 32.3), 8-149 (Evans, 36.6), 9-156 (Nyauchi, 37.2).

**INDIA BOWLING**

Siraj 8-2-16-1, Prasidh 6.1-1-28-1, Shardul 7-0-38-3, Axar 7-1-20-1, Kuldeep 8-0-49-1, Hooda 2-0-6-1.

**INDIA**

Shikhar Dhawan c Kaia b Chivanga 33 *(21b, 4x4)*, K.L. Rahul lbw b Nyauchi 1 *(5b)*, Shubman Gill c Evans b Jongwe 33 *(34b, 6x4)*, Ishan Kishan b Jongwe 6 *(13b)*, Deepak Hooda b Raza 25 *(36b, 3x4)*, Sanju Samson (not out) 43 *(39b, 3x4, 4x6)*, Axar Patel (not out) 6 *(7b, 1x4)*; Extras (b-1, w-18, nb-1): 20; Total (for five wkts. in 25.4 overs): 167.

**FALL OF WICKETS**

1-5 (Rahul, 1.4), 2-47 (Dhawan, 6.3), 3-83 (Kishan, 11.4), 4-97 (Gill, 13.6), 5-153 (Hooda, 23.3).

**ZIMBABWE BOWLING**

Chivanga 7-0-38-1, Nyauchi 4-0-32-1, Jongwe 4-0-33-2, Evans 4-0-21-0, Raza 4-0-16-1, Williams 1-0-13-0, Madhevere 1-0-7-0, Kaia 0.4-0-6-0.

**Toss:** India; **MoM:** Samson.

*India won by five wickets with 24.2 overs remaining to take an unassailable 2-0 lead in three-match series.*

**Third and final ODI: August 22,** Harare Sports Club, 12.45 p.m. IST.

### INDIA IN ZIM

REUTERS
HARARE

Seamer Shardul Thakur claimed three for 38 as India completed a five-wicket victory over Zimbabwe to take an unassailable 2-0 lead in the three-match One-Day International series here on Saturday.

After electing to bowl, India dismissed the home side for 161 before chasing down the target with 24.2 overs remaining for another comfortable win to follow Thursday's victory by 10 wickets at the same venue.

All six Indian bowlers took wickets, but it was Shardul who stood out as he dismissed opener Innocent Kaia (16), captain Regis Chakabva (2) and Luke Jongwe (6) with some excellent swing bowling.

Sean Williams was the top-scorer for Zimbabwe with a run-a-ball 42, while Ryan Burl was left stranded on 39 at the end of the innings.

"Early on it was a little on the slower side, but later we could bowl more bouncers," Shardul said.

"What I can improve on is to guess where the batter is going to attack me and bowl accordingly. I think I have a good skillset... I just need to keep polishing those in the nets.

"Sometimes you just need to hit the deck hard and keep it tight," said Shardul.

> **I think I have a good skillset and need to keep polishing them**
> SHARDUL

> **It feels good to spend time in the middle**
> SAMSON

**Rahul falls cheaply**

India lost captain K.L. Rahul (1) early on in the chase while the heroes from the first game, Shikhar Dhawan and Shubman Gill, both scored 33.

They could not, however, repeat their heroics from the earlier game.

> **Wherever we go, we get good support from Indian fans**
> RAHUL

Deepak Hooda (25) and Man-of-the-Match Sanju Samson (43 not out) put on 56 for the fifth wicket to see India to within sight of the target.

The third and final match will be played at the same venue on Monday.

"We bat deep and it's good for some of the guys to get time in the middle. We weren't nervous," Rahul said at the post-match presentation.

"Zimbabwe has some quality bowlers and they did well against Bangladesh. The bowlers did come hard, they're tall, big and strong players. It was a good challenge for us, but we bat deep and it wasn't a worry," said Rahul, who promoted himself and opened the innings with Dhawan.

"It didn't work (on the changed batting order), I wanted to get some runs but it didn't happen. Hopefully I can do it in the next game."

**Good feeling**

Samson said he enjoyed keeping wickets and contributing with the bat.

"It feels good to spend time in the middle. I took three catches but I missed a stumping too. I really enjoyed keeping and contributing to the win."

# Roadblocks in the revolution

## Proteas' runaway win tests England's Bazball strategy

K.C. VIJAYA KUMAR

**Wanted, adaptability:** Stokes and McCullum will now have to devise a second line of defence. • GETTY IMAGES

The sporting pilgrims at Lord's may have yearned for a pulsating Test lasting five days but the South African attack deigned otherwise. It was no surprise that the first encounter between England and South Africa concluded within three days.

The visitor's innings and 12-run triumph over a stunned host on Friday belied England's terrific start to its cricketing summer highlighted through four victories in the game's longest format. Those wins also ushered in the adrenaline-infused Bazball approach that new coach Brendon McCullum, in tandem with skipper Ben Stokes, propagated.

**Shedding the blinkers**

Batters shed their defensive blinkers and fourth-innings pursuits were treated like a jaunty night out in town. As a spectacle it was surreal. It was a template that also mirrored McCullum's approach during his playing days and one that found a welcome echo from Stokes, who chased the improbable in the nerve-wracking 2019 World Cup final at Lord's while sneaking past a combative New Zealand.

Closer home in India, none will forget McCullum's unbeaten 158 off 73 balls that helped Kolkata Knight Riders seal its contest against host Royal Challengers Bangalore, the Indian Premier League's inaugural game in 2008.

The same batter as New Zealand skipper, attempted a swipe against Australia's Mitchell Starc in the 2015 World Cup final at Melbourne and walked away to the sound of clattering stumps. Aggression cuts both ways.

England, used to either setting the pace of the match or staging a rousing comeback, ran into a doughty South African unit.

Rival captain Dean Elgar employed his speedsters Kagiso Rabada, Anrich Nortje, Marco Jansen and Lungi Ngidi while spinner Keshav Maharaj too had his time. That Joe Root and Jonny Bairstow between them scored a meagre 32 also hurt England.

Test cricket with its twin arcs of being relatively slow while still being engrossing, needs its share of fun and Bazball infused that quirky element. But England needs Plan B. There are times batters need to play time and Tests offer that rare bridge between triumph and defeat – the draw.

At times even stalemates can be interesting. It remains to be seen if England will stick with its breakneck speed or strike a balance while the series moves to Manchester and then to the Oval.

That England lasted just 82.4 overs across both its batting stints may be a cause for worry for McCullum. But it is not the end of the road.

India once scored 36 and still found enough strength to get past Australia in a splendid Test series Down Under. Just that Bazball may need a fresh twist over the next fortnight.

### The Bazball file

**At Lord's:** New Zealand 132 & 285 lost to England 141 & 279/5

**At Nottingham:** New Zealand 553 & 284 lost to England 539 & 299/5

**At Leeds:** New Zealand 329 & 326 lost to England 360 & 296/3

**At Birmingham:** India 416 & 245 lost to England 284 & 378/3

**At Lord's:** England 165 & 149 lost to South Africa 326

# Indian women finish runner-up

## Priyanka, Reetika add to tally as team garners 160 points

### WRESTLING

SPORTS BUREAU

Priyanka (65kg) and Reetika (72kg) added two medals as India claimed the runner-up trophy in the women's section at the World under-20 wrestling championships in Sofia, Bulgaria.

After Antim (53kg) became the first Indian to secure an under-20 world title, Priyanka lost to Japan's Mahiro Yoshitake 8-0 in the final and finished with a silver. Reetika bagged a bronze.

The Indian women, who picked up one gold, three silver and three bronze medals, garnered 160 points to finish second behind Japan (230). USA, with 124, was third.

**In seventh heaven:** The Indians won one gold, three silver and three bronze medals. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Sumit (60kg) made it to the bronze medal contest while Rohit Dahiya (82kg) remained in the medal race by entering the repechage round in the Greco-Roman competitions on Saturday.

# Pragg loses, slips to second spot

## Duda bests Carlsen four times in six encounters

### FTX CRYPTO CUP

RAKESH RAO

After a dream run, R. Praggnanandhaa had an off-day against Vietnam's Liem Le Quang and lost 0.5-2.5 to slip to the second spot behind Magnus Carlsen after the fifth round of the $210,000 FTX Crypto Cup rapid chess tournament in Miami on Friday.

After the first game ended in a draw, Praggnanandhaa faltered in equal positions in the next two games for his first loss in the eight-player tournament and remained on 12 points.

Like Praggnanandhaa, Carlsen also suffered his first defeat but lost four times in six encounters against Poland's Jan-Krzysztof Duda.

Duda. • FILE PHOTO

Unlike the Indian, Carlsen gained a point since his loss came after the rapid games. In fact, Carlsen did well to force the blitz tiebreak games after losing the first two rapid encounters.

The Norwegian bounced back to win twice in succession and make it 2-2, Duda was fortunate to escape to victory in the blitz games.

Alireza Firouzja (France) moved within a point of Praggnanandhaa by beating Hans Niemann (USA) 2.5-0.5 and Anish Giri (Netherlands) was fourth after scoring a similar victory over Levon Aronian (USA).

**The standings (after five rounds):** 1. Magnus Carlsen (Nor, 13 points), 2. R. Praggnanandhaa (12), 3. Alireza Firouzja (Fra, 11), 4. Anish Giri (Ned, 7), 5-6. Liem Le Quang (Vie, 6), Jan-Krzysztof Duda (Pol, 6), 7. Levon Aronian (USA, 5), 8. Hans Niemann (USA, 0).

# Arjun and Raunak among five leaders

SPORTS BUREAU

Fourth seed Arjun Erigaisi held second-seeded Russian Evegeny Tomashevsky to share the lead with four others, including Raunak Sadhwani, at 3.5 points after the fourth round of the Abu Dhabi Masters chess tournament on Friday.

**The results: Fourth round:** Evegeny Tomashevsky (CFR, 3) drew with Arjun Erigaisi (3.5); Jorden van Foreest (Ned, 3.5) bt Manual Petrosyan (Arm, 2.5); Liviu-Dieter Nisipeanu (Ger, 3.5) bt Mahammad Muradli (Aze, 2.5); M. Karthikeyan (2.5) lost to Robson Ray (USA, 3.5); P. Iniyan (3) drew with Salem Saleh (UAE, 3); David Anton (Esp, 3) drew with B. Adhiban (3); Sandro Mareco (Arg, 3) drew with Harsha Bharathakoti (3); Aram Hakobyan (Arm, 3) drew with Nihal Sarin (3); Javokhir Sindarov (Uzb, 3) drew with Arjun Kalyan (3); Adhita Samant (3) drew with Aryan Chopra (3); S.P. Sethuraman (3) drew with Tigran Harutyunyan (Arm, 3); Raunak Sadhwani (3.5) bt Irine Kharishma Sukandar (Ina, 2.5).

Raunak. • FILE PHOTO

# New Zealand levels series

Allen survived this fumble by Hope, but fell short of a century. • AP

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
BRIDGETOWN

Tim Southee and Trent Boult claimed three wickets each as West Indies was all out for 161, chasing New Zealand's 212, in the second ODI on Friday. Earlier, Finn Allen scored 96 for the visitors who squared the series 1-1.

**The scores:** New Zealand 212 in 48.2 overs (Finn Allen 96, Daryl Mitchell 41, Jason Holder 3/24, Kevin Sinclair 4/41) vs West Indies 161 in 35.3 overs (Yannic Cariah 52, Alzarri Joseph 49; Trent Boult 3/18, Tim Southee 4/22) [Target revised to 212 in 41 overs].

**Toss:** West Indies; **MoM:** Allen.

*New Zealand won by 50 runs to level three-match series 1-1.*

# Kane record in Tottenham win

## Odegaard leads Arsenal to victory against Bournemouth

### EURO LEAGUES

REUTERS
LONDON

Harry Kane's 250th Tottenham goal took Spurs to the top of the Premier League with a 1-0 win over Wolves on Saturday as a 2-1 defeat to Southampton compounded Leicester's miserable start to the season.

Kane's 185th Premier League goal also set a record for the most scored by anyone for a single club, edging ahead of Sergio Aguero's 184 for Manchester City.

**Record strike:** Kane nets from close range to notch up his 185th goal for Spurs, overtaking Aguero's 184 for City. • AFP

**Gunners on top**

Arsenal stormed to the top of the table as captain Martin Odegaard struck twice inside 11 minutes in a comprehensive 3-0 win against Bournemouth.

William Saliba's sweet strike in the second half gave the scoreline a fair reflection of the Gunners' dominance as Mikel Arteta's men continued their perfect start with their third win in three games.

Fulham remained unbeaten on its return to the top flight as Aleksandar Mitrovic's powerful header won a thrilling west London derby 3-2 against Brentford.

Everton secured its first point of the season, thanks to Demarai Gray's late equaliser which cancelled out Brennan Johnson's goal for free-spending Nottingham Forest in a 1-1 draw at Goodison Park.

Borussia Dortmund conceded three late goals from the 89th minute to lose 2-3 to Werder Bremen in its first Bundesliga defeat of the season.

**The results:**

**Premier League:** Tottenham 1 (Kane 64) bt Wolves 0; Crystal Palace 3 (Zaha 7, 58, Mateta 71) bt Aston Villa 1 (Watkins 5); Everton 1 (Gray 88) drew with Nottingham Forest 1 (Johnson 81); Fulham 3 (De Cordova-Reid 1, Goncalves 20, Mitrovic 90) bt Brentford 2 (Norgaard 44, Toney 71); Leicester 1 (Maddison 54) lost to Southampton 2 (Adams 68, 84); Bournemouth 0 lost to Arsenal 3 (Odegaard 5 & 11, Saliba 54).

**Bundesliga:** Augsburg 1 (Demirovic 35) lost to Mainz 2 (Onisiwo 31, Jae-Sung 90+3); Wolfsburg 0 drew with Schalke 0; Borussia Dortmund 2 (Brandt 45+2, Guerreiro 77) lost to Werder Bremen 3 (Buchanan 89, Schmidt 90+3, Burke 90+5); Bayer Leverkusen 0 lost to Hoffenheim 3 (Baumgartner 9, Kramaric 34, Rutter 78).

# Rajasthan stuns ATK MB

## Army Red holds Chennaiyin with last-gasp equaliser

### DURAND CUP

AMITABHA DAS SHARMA
KOLKATA

I-League side Rajasthan United FC created the first major upset of the 131st edition of the Durand Cup, downing Indian Super League giant ATK Mohun Bagan (ATK MB) 3-2 in its first Group B league outing, at the Salt Lake Stadium here on Saturday.

ATK Mohun Bagan went into the lead late in the opening session through Kiyan Nassiri but it was soon cancelled out by Rajasthan United's Kyrgyzstan midfielder Bektur Amangeldiev.

ATK MB regained the lead immediately after the break off its debutant forward Ashique Kuruniyan but Rajasthan levelled off F. Lalremsanga at the hour mark.

ATK MB, which fielded its full roster of costly acquisitions, paid for its profligacy of missing at least five clear chances in the final 20 minutes as Rajasthan turned the tables on it in the injury-time with substitute Gyamar Nikum finding the winner.

The fancied home side created chances at will with play-makers like Frenchman Hugo Boumous and Finland's Joni Kauko opening up the Rajasthan defence on numerous occasions. But the indecisiveness of attackers like Kiyan, Manvir Singh and Asish Rai, who together missed at least six sitters, proved to be ATK MB's undoing.

**Ecstatic:** Gyamar is joy unbound after netting Rajasthan's winner. • DEBASISH BHADURI

In Imphal, four second-half goals, including two in injury time, resulted in an exciting contest as Army Red drew Chennaiyin FC 2-2 in a Group C match at the Khuman Lampak Stadium in Imphal on Saturday.

Lethaolen Khongsai gave Army the lead in the 54th minute. Chennaiyin swung the match in its favour towards the end by striking twice through Julius Duker and Edwin Vanspaul.

But Liton Shil managed an equaliser to deny the Indian Super League (ISL) outfit – which fielded a strong side comprising its foreign recruits (including Croatian Bundesliga man Petar Sliskovic) – a winning start.

**The results: At Kolkata:** ATK Mohun Bagan 2 (Kiyan Nassiri 43, Ashique Kuruniyan 46) lost to Rajasthan United FC 3 (Bektur Amangeldiev 45+1, F. Lalremsanga 60, Gyamar Nikum 45+3).

**At Imphal:** Chennaiyin FC 2 (Duker 89, Edwin 90+4) drew with Army Red 2 (Khongsai 54, Liton 90+6).

### IN BRIEF

**Shanaka to helm Lanka**

COLOMBO

Sri Lanka on Friday named a 20-man squad led by Dasun Shanaka for the Asia Cup in the UAE from August 27.

**The squad:** Dasun Shanaka (Capt.), Dhanushaka Gunathilaka, Pathum Nissanka, Kusal Mendis, Charith Asalanka, Banuka Rajapaksha, Ashen Bandara, Dhananjaya de Silva, Wanindu Hasaranga, Mahesh Theekshana, Jeffery Vandersay, Praveen Jayawickrema, Dushmantha Chameera, Binura Fernando, Chamika Karunaratne, Dilshan Madushanka, Matheesha Pathirana, Dinesh Chandimal, Nuwanindu Fernando and Kasun Rajitha.

**Afridi out of Asia Cup**

KARACHI

Pakistan's frontline fast bowler Shaheen Shah Afridi has been ruled out of next week's Asia Cup and the T20I series against England with a knee injury, doctors said on Saturday. AFP